

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63130

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

December 4, 1972

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil
Clayton, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric,

This letter is to report the results of the non-destructive silver analysis which I carried out on the 1792 Voigt pattern cent, to which I shall refer as the Coin. Two different methods based on low-level neutron activation were used. The neutron source was five curies of a plutonium-beryllium mixture moderated by three inches of paraffin. Irradiation times were limited to one minute, and the only detectable radioactivity produced was silver-108 with 2.4 minute half-life and silver-110 with 24 second half-life. Thus the initial activity, never more than one thousand counts per minute (compared to 50,000 for a radioactive wrist watch) died out and became undetectable after ca. ten minutes. I emphasize that there is absolutely no detectable residual radioactivity in the Coin.

Both methods used are due to A.A. Gordus and are described in his article in Archaeometry, 10, 78(1967). In the first method the product of the silver content of a coin times its thickness is determined by measuring the decrease in the neutrons which reach a standard silver sample mounted behind the coin to be analyzed during neutron activation. In the present case a calibration curve was constructed by irradiating the standard silver sample (a mercury dime dated 1927) mounted behind various coins of known silver content, measuring their thickness with a ball micrometer reading to 0.0001 inches, and graphing the counts induced in the dime versus the product of silver content and thickness for the coins of known fineness. For calibration purposes coins were used which ranged in fineness from 0.300 to 0.900, and in thickness from 0.115 cm. to 0.182 cm. The Voigt Cent has an average thickness of 0.135 cm. All thicknesses were taken as the average of five measurements on different places on the coin (3, 6, 9 and 12 o'clock positions and center).

A linear least-squares error analysis indicated that the slope of the calibration line is known within a probable error of $\pm 11\%$ and the intercept is known to $\pm 4\%$. Both these errors accumulate in determining the fineness of an unknown coin. When the activity induced in the standard sample was measured after being mounted behind the Voigt Cent, five determinations were made with the mean deviation of a single measurement from the average of $\pm 7\%$. The average was converted to an estimated product of % silver \times thickness (cm) of 94.4 which corresponds to a silver content of 70%. The estimated error is $\pm 10\%$.

The second method involves a determination of the activity induced in the unknown coin per unit weight, corrected for the attenuation of the neutron flux by absorption within the coin. The correction is made by simultaneously irradiating a standard silver sample, the same mercury dime, held behind the unknown coin and dividing the specific activity of the unknown by the activity induced in the dime times a calibration constant. Gordus has found that the specific activity of any silver coin divided by the activity induced in a standard silver disk mounted behind the coin during neutron irradiation, and also divided by the % silver contained in the coin, is a constant. This constant

characterizes the neutron-irradiation facility and the counting apparatus. The constant is determined by using coins of known fineness and is then used to determine the fineness of unknowns. The data for the calibration of the standard silver disks included the activity induced in the standard disk and in a coin of known fineness when the disk was held behind the coin during irradiation, and the weight and fineness of the known coin. Two standard disks were calibrated: the 1927 mercury dime was calibrated behind a 1961 US fifty cent piece; a 1944 english 0.500 fine sixpence was calibrated behind a 1962 quarter.

The constants for both standards were used together with the measured ratios of the activity induced in the Voigt cent and the standards (held behind the Voigt Cent during neutron irradiation) and the weight of the Voigt Cent, 5.2404 grams, to calculate the silver content of the Voigt Cent. Using the mercury dime standard, the estimated silver content of the Voigt Cent is $77 \pm 10\%$, while the other standard gives an estimate of $78 \pm 10\%$.

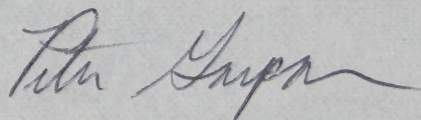
I should have mentioned that as a check on the first method, I determined the fineness of a 1926 0.500 english florin. The experimental answer was $42 \pm 8\%$.

Thus the three values for the silver content of the Voigt Cent which were experimentally determined were 70 ± 10 , 77 ± 10 and $78 \pm 10\%$. These values were so much higher than expected that I determined the specific gravity of the Voigt Cent. The measured weights 5.2404 grams in air and 4.7181 grams in water give a density of 10.03. Using the ideal mixture formula given by E.R. Caley, Analysis of Ancient Metals, Pergamon, 1964, p. 60, this density corresponds to 74% silver, in good agreement with the neutron activation values.

In closing let me say that the edges of the coin show large areas of silvery metal, indicating that this coin may be of high silver content in the interior with copper coating the surfaces.

We did not carry out an autoradiogram on the coin because that would have required much much higher neutron fluxes which would have left some residual activity.

Sincerely yours,



Peter Gaspar
Associate Professor of Chemistry

P.S. The weight of this piece is remarkable. Breen ("The United States Patterns of 1792") gives the standard weight of the silver center cent as 69.12 grains, with known specimens falling between 59 and 73 grains. At 5.2404 grams, the present piece weighs 80.87 grains. Breen gives the official weight of the Birch pure copper cent as 264 grains. Knowing the silver center cent to contain $\frac{1}{4}$ cent copper and $\frac{3}{4}$ cent silver, the proportion of the two metals should be 66 grains copper and 3.12 grains silver, i.e. 4.51% silver. By Caley's formula the density of a copper-silver alloy containing 4.51% silver should be 8.96. An object weighing 69.12 grains = 4.479 grams with a specific gravity of 8.96 would have a volume of 0.4999 cubic centimeters. In the specific gravity determination the volume of the present Voigt cent was determined to be 0.5223 cubic centimeters. Therefore this coin has a volume ca. 4.5% greater than it would have if the composition were 4.51% silver, 95.49% copper. If the diameter is exactly correct, this amounts to only ca. 0.06 mm extra thickness.

December 16, 1972

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil
Clayton, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric,

This letter is a report on the X-ray examination of the 1792 Voigt cent which was carried out yesterday in my presence by Dr. Michael Phelps of the radiation physics section of the Malinkrodt Institute of Radiology, Washington University School of Medicine. Enclosed you will find an X-ray photograph of the coin.

Preliminary x-ray examination using a range of voltages and exposure times indicated that there is no discernible variation in the distribution of silver throughout the coin. Since the x-ray photographs were taken through the faces of the coin, we could not look for the variation of the silver content going from the obverse and reverse surfaces to the interior. The x-ray photographs taken indicated only the variation in the total amount of silver between the obverse and reverse surfaces at any point.

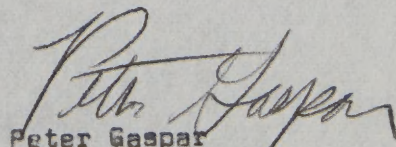
The preliminary photographs also indicated that there is no metal plug mechanically seated in the center of the coin. This would have been particularly obvious with a plug of a different composition from the rest of the coin, but even a plug of the same metal would have been detected by the seam.

The low relief of this coin caused some difficulty in finding the most suitable conditions for x-ray photography. The enclosed photograph while slightly overexposed is the clearest shot of the inscriptions which was obtained. It does show the lettering of obverse and reverse. For instance between OF and AMERICA an N is clearly seen.

This photograph was taken on M-type industrial x-ray film with a 1500 milliamperere-seconds exposure at 100 kilovolts tube potential with 0.6 mm aluminum filtration. A medical x-ray unit was used. An industrial unit capable of higher continuous tube current at lower voltage might be superior for coin work.

I hope that this information is useful to you.

Sincerely yours,



Peter Gaspar
Associate Professor of Chemistry

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63130

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

December 16, 1972

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6450 Cecil
Clayton, Missouri 63105

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I hope that this information is useful to you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Peter Gaspar'.

Peter Gaspar
Associate Professor of Chemistry

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

December 18, 1972

A.N.A. Certification Service
P. O. Box 87, Ben Franklin Station
Washington, D. C. 20044

Attention: Mr. Charles Hoskins

Re: No. 9959

Gentlemen:

You have sent to us for our opinion a 1792 U. S. Voight pattern cent without silver plug. It is of the type of one of the pieces described in the December 18, 1792 letter from Jefferson to Washington. That letter describes three types of planchets for striking of the small size cent pieces; (1) by insertion of a small silver plug worth $3/4$ cents into the center of a copper planchet worth $1/4$ cents, (2) by a melt of silver worth $3/4$ cents and copper worth $1/4$ cents to produce a planchet of a uniformly fused mixture, and (3) a pure copper planchet. The letter also mentions the large planchet piece or Birch cent.

Cents with silver plugs in their centers were actually made and delivered according to the letter and are well known. The other two types of small planchet patterns without a plug were about to be made when the letter was written and the three existing pieces have not been studied by modern techniques as far as we know to determine their metallic content. The submitted piece is to be studied to see if it is a fourth example of the latter two types.

When compared to an uncirculated silver center cent from the same pair of dies the submitted piece appears to have substantial amounts of wear throughout both faces, the date being particularly weak and worn with the lines of the figure 2 being spread in width from apparent wear. The faces are well toned copper with silver peeking through on the reverse at the bow, the E of CENT and on some leaves. There is a radial scratch on the border dentillation over the left end of T in INDUST and this scratch has a bright silver color. Silvery color appears on the edge in many areas.

The submitted coin was illustrated and described in the June 25, 1969 Coin World and the June 24, 1969 Numismatic News. It was there stated that Don Taxay had it tested in the Harmer Rooke research laboratory and proven it to be made of billon. No metallic content was mentioned and we have not seen any report of the test. The coin was to be auctioned in late 1969 at Harmer Rooke according to the articles, but we cannot locate it in such an auction. It was valued at \$20,000.00 by some, according to the article.

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December 18, 1972

A. N. A. Certification Service

The weight of the submitted piece is 80.87 grains and its specific gravity is 10.03. It rings when tapped. Its diameter is virtually the same as both the silver center cent and the 1792 disme which indicates that the same planchet cutter was used for all pieces.

The weight of the Voight cents with a silver plug according to Walter Breen's findings in "The United States Patterns of 1792" (N.Y. 1954) ranges from 57 to 73 grains, the theoretical weight being stated as 69.12 grains (66 grains of copper and 3.12 grains of standard silver). We believe that the theoretical weight might be 68.78 grains (66 grains of copper and 2.78 grains of pure silver) depending on whether the plug was pure silver or standard silver (892.3 fine according to the 1792 Mint Act). In either event the submitted piece at 80.87 grains is far out of range in weight for a technical pattern specifically made to be submitted for review. An all copper planchet of the same size as the silver center cent would theoretically weigh 68.37 grains.

The specific gravity of the submitted piece at 10.03 is out of the range of any piece mentioned in Jefferson's letter. Judd in "United States Pattern, Experimental and Trial Pieces" (Racine, 1959 etc.) estimates the specific gravity of the fused metal cent at 9.05 and the pure copper cent at 8.95. We believe the 9.05 estimate is a slightly high calculation.

Because of the foregoing combination of excessive weight and excessive specific gravity we believe the idea of the piece being one which Jefferson mentioned must be abandoned. We then must determine whether it was a separate experiment or some kind of a later copy.

Nondestructive neutron activation tests for silver content were conducted by Peter Gaspar, a numismatist, Associate Professor of Chemistry at Washington University, and a researcher at the Brookhaven Laboratories. A copy of that report is enclosed. It shows that the submitted coin averages about 75% silver plus or minus 10% for error. A measurement of the volume of the submitted coin and a coordination of that with its specific gravity indicates that the balance of the coin is apparently copper. An Xray photograph through the faces of the coin shows uniform consistency and shows no plug and no solder.

An optical examination reveals that the exterior of the submitted coin is an extremely thin layer of copper. This does not account for the additional copper which should be in the interior to account for the specific gravity and neutron activation findings. Electro plating was not available in 1792 but plating by a chemical bath could have been accomplished. The plating could have taken place either before or after striking if the coin were made in 1792.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

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Page 3

December 18, 1972

A. N. A. Certification Service

However, the wear of the submitted coin and the thinness of the plating leads to the conclusion that no plated coin could be so worn and still retain the copper plating in heavily worn areas. Thus the plating was not applied in 1792.

The question as to whether the coin could be cast or an electrotype was next pursued. The casting of a coin in molds or in electrotype shells or building up and filling electrotypes by further plating requires a consideration of the interior content. Silver melts at 961°C (1762°F) and copper melts at 1084°C (1983°F). The melting point of a mixture of the two reaches a minimum of 779°C (1434°F) when the mixture is 72% silver and 28% copper. A silver-copper casting material or filler of 72-28 conforms to the specific gravity and neutron activation findings. Thus if a low melting point material were selected for a false coin the metals in the submitted coin are choice.

It is well known that there have been numbers of electrotypes made from Voight cents. These are readily recognizable from various defects. To find the coin from which they are made is rather difficult and has not been attempted. There is however in the submitted coin evidence which is convincing that the piece is false. There is a thin circle in the center of the reverse of the submitted coin. Its top is just under the ON of ONE. Its bottom is under E of CENT. Its right side passes through the N of CENT and its left side is on the right side of C in CENT. It is a depression in the surface.

The silver plug in a silver center cent is 2-1/2 to 3 mm. in diameter and in the identical position. There is sometimes a slight depression on the silver center cent where the silver copper joint occurs and which is not completely obliterated by the striking. The submitted coin has no silver center but has the outline of the silver plug on the reverse. It is obvious that the cast or electrotype shell used for the making of the submitted coin was taken from a silver center cent which had the contour evidence of its plug still remaining. There would be no trace of a ring on a fused metal or copper cent as the submitted coin purports to be. If copper plating were added to a cast or silver shell electrotype the ring would still show through. The submitted coin is therefore false regardless what method of manufacture was used after the initial impressions were made.

We wish to express our appreciation to Peter Gaspar for his assistance. We have no objection to this opinion being used by your service in any manner

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

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December 18, 1972

A. N. A. Certification Service

you feel justified if you agree with the opinion. The submitted piece is returned herewith and we hope we have been helpful.

Respectfully submitted,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

By Eric P. Newman
President

EPN
atb

REGISTERED MAIL

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CERTIFICATION, REGISTERED NO.

AFTER EXAMINATION OF THE

PHOTOGRAPHED COIN SHOWN ON THE OPPOSITE

SIDE OF THIS CERTIFICATE, IN OUR OPINION IT IS A GENUINE,
ORIGINAL COIN AS DESCRIBED, AND HAS BEEN REGISTERED THIS

DATE TO

ANA CERTIFICATION SERVICE

19

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP

FOR VALUE RECEIVED I (WE) HEREBY SELL AND ASSIGN TO

OF

THE COIN PHOTOGRAPHED ON THE REVERSE OF THIS CERTIFICATE,

This is the former Eureka piece
It is a cent from a silver mint
1864 with a 12% value
1-1/2% copper under gold (interior)
100% copper plated. See photo
of the reverse side of the coin.



Coin sent in 1972
for opinion

Copper plated electro
false

From ANACS Nov 1977



Coin Sent in 1972
for opinion

Opinion by
Taxway when at
Harmer Roske

Copper plated [electro]
~~false silver~~

From ANACS Nov 1977

2959

St. Louis Testing Laboratories, Inc.

X-Ray Spectrochemical Data

11/19/77

Customer

Sample Type

[illegible][illegible]

Gaspar measurement

density 10.13 ± 0.03

1792 Cohen Silver Center
Cent made of all "silver".

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

December 20, 1972

Mr. Charles Hoskins
American Numismatic Association Certification Service
P. O. Box 87 Ben Franklin Station
Washington, D. C. 20044

Dear Chuck:

Before I got your letter of December 14, 1972 I forwarded the Voight cent back to you. Will you therefore send it to Virgil.

This coin is much more serious than an obvious electrotype. This is possibly a casting with electrotypes as molds or some kind of a plating to hold two electrotypes together. It is not the routine sandwich electrotype and it rings beautifully.

Why don't you send a copy of the material I returned to Virgil and see what he thinks. I actually cannot figure out exactly how this copy was made.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

December 20, 1972

Mr. Charles Hoskins
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P. O. Box 87 Ben Franklin Station
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Kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

3/15/74

Dear Eric,

Enclosed please find a
1792 silver Center Cent. This specimen
is formerly the property of Dr. J. H. Sudd.
It is illustrated in the Sudd reference
on patterns as T-1 and in Kosoff's
Illustrated History Catalog. I had
3" photos taken of this coin and compared
them with 3" photos of the coin when Dr.
Jack owned it. I am entirely convinced
it is the same coin. Also enclosed is
Kosoff's envelope in his handwriting.

Recently while attending the
NASC Convention in LA, I had the
(over)

opportunity to inspect another specimen of J-1. It was then the property of G. Jon Hanson of Beverly Hills. Upon close inspection of his coin and comparison with mine, I found a number of exact nicks in both coins. Some of them are as follows:

① a diagonal one just above the "7" in the date.

② a + mark between the "d" in United and the "S" in States.

In addition there are probably another half dozen exact nicks.

At that point, I started looking for other specimens and I found two other pieces that did not have silver centers that do have these nicks.

-2-
They are:
① a specimen in the possession
of Horner Cooke of N.Y.
② a specimen that was offered
at the 1966 Chicago AMA by L. Lessoran
of Las Vegas.

I physically inspected Hanson's
and Horner Cooke's specimens and find
that the color of those coins differs
dramatically from the enclosed specimen,
Horner Cooke's especially.

I can find no standard weight for
these coins and now find myself with
a questionable coin which I paid \$40,000.-
for. Could you give me your opinion
as to its authenticity. Thank you,
Julian Lerman.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

March 28, 1974

Mr. Julian Leidman
8439 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Julian:

You have asked for our opinion of your 1792 Silver Cent (Judd 1) which you state came from the Judd collection and is illustrated in Kosoff's Illustrated History.

Your piece weighs $75\frac{1}{2}$ grains which is in the normal range. Breens gross weights in his 1954 article "The United States Patterns of 1792" are not sufficient as they range to 80 grains. The specific gravity is 8.9 which is the same as a genuine piece I compared with it. There may be air trapped in the interstices between the plug and the outside making specific gravity variable. The 7 in the date is weak. There is a diagonal scratch above 17 rising to the right. There is a line ~~dent~~ under IB. Between the D of UNITED and the first S of STATES is a T shaped dent, the upright of which is 90 degrees offset from the end of the nearest berry stem.

An oval indentation appears centered on the side of the nose above the nostril. This is either a planchet defect or a subsequent injury as it is not on a well struck piece. The 5th string of hair from the bottom which points at E is struck weakly at the end.

There is a small notch at the base of the truncated bust above the left side of the 7 below. On the reverse the dentils are longest at 11 o'clock and almost imperceptible at 6 o'clock.

The silver plug is full on the obverse and is irregular at 8 to 11 o'clock. On the reverse the plug fails to fill the hole completely leaving a circumference gap from 10:30 clockwise to 8:30 with the widest portion from 12 to 5 o'clock clockwise. The EN is very weak on the plug.

The reeded edge is complete and properly spaced. The color, texture and other detail is normal. The wear is uniform and other detail is normal. The wear is uniform and would grade as very fine. There is no questionable characteristic we have noticed.

There are a substantial number of copies of this pattern, some with a silver plug and some without. I have seen four of such copies, including the Harmer Rooke specimen. Whether the Hanson piece (with plug) or the Las Vegas piece, which you state had no silver center, were among them, I cannot now state as it was long ago.

The Harmer Rooke piece was copper plated. Its interior was a solid mixture of about 72% silver and 28% copper. I am not certain how it was

Mr. Julian Leidman
March 28, 1974
Page 2 -

produced. It was a cast made from the Judd piece as it has the same wear, dents and other characteristics, but there is no circumferential depression around the plug area on the reverse. Yet there is a tell tale shadow of part of a plug circumference on the H-R piece which actually has no plug. The N of CENT on the H-R piece is more complete than on the Judd piece. The E of CENT is more complete also but looks tooled on the H-R piece. It is not clear how the trench around the reverse of the plug could disappear in making the H-R piece. It would be impractical to fill the trench with wax before the copy was made. It would be possible to remove the ridge on the negative by tooling and polishing. I would like to see the plug area of the Hanson piece or a picture of it to check the same problem.

In any event your piece, in our opinion, is genuine. We return it herewith and hope we have been helpful.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman, President

EPN:jah

Encl.

REGISTERED MAIL

JULIAN LEIDMAN
DEALER IN RARE COINS
8439 GEORGIA AVENUE
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20910

(301) 585-8467

4/9/74

Eric,

Many thanks for your help.
When I get some pictures of other coins,
I'll get them to you.

Yours truly,
Julian

Re Opinions on
1792 Silver Cent
Cent

check for \$75.00 to EPWVES enclosed

1897

JULIAN LEIDMAN

4/9 74 65-123 550

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Eric P. Leidman, Jr. \$25.00

Twenty Five and 00/100 DOLLARS

UNIVERSITY NATIONAL BANK
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

FOR
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HARLAND N23 (11/72)

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63130

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

April 21, 1974

Mr. Eric P. Neuman
6450 Cecil
Clayton, Mo. 63105

Dear Eric,

I have examined the 1792 'silver center' cent without silver center, performing a specific gravity determination, and a qualitative (nondestructive) analysis of the surface by scanning electron microscopy. I find the specific gravity to be 7.59, which is of course very low for copper. Yet the spot on the reverse scanned by the electron microscope revealed the surface to be copper, free of significant impurities. The only way to reconcile the copper surface with the low specific gravity is to postulate a hollow space within the coin. Of course it is possible that the interior of the coin, not sampled by the scanning electron micrograph, differs in composition from the surface. However the possibility of a hollow within the coin is supported by the absence of 'ring' exhibited by the coin when held on a fingertip and gently tapped with another copper coin. When this piece is 'rung' together with a normal struck coin the difference in 'ring' is quite distinct. Therefore the most likely candidate for a manufacturing process for this piece is by the joining together of two shells. That this piece is copied from a silver center specimen is obvious from the circles visible on both obverse and reverse.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Peter Gaspar", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter Gaspar

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

April 22, 1974

American Numismatic Association Certification Service
P. O. Box 87 - Ben Franklin Station
Washington, D. C. 20044

Re: Your #6816

*sent in
4/12/74
at \$2000 value*

Gentlemen:

You have submitted for an opinion a 1792 copper Voight Cent with uniform consistency (no silver plug). Its weight is 84 grains which is higher than normal. Its specific gravity is 7.6, which is much too low for a genuine coin, whether it is a copper-silver combination or only copper. The coin has no vibration sound when tapped. The obverse is strong and clear while the reverse is so weak that many parts are unreadable. This cannot result from wear. The surfaces are lightly scratched throughout. The obverse has a long scratch from the right side of E in PARENT to and above top of 2 and then curving over balance of date. The planchet is too thick.

The obverse has a faint trace of the outline of a plug of the same size and at the same position as the silver center cent, and there are small depressions in the neck and on the jaw line along this outline. The reverse has an oval open trench of the size and in the position of a silver center cent plug perimeter, the more deeply sunk portion being from 10 o'clock to 5 o'clock clockwise. This trench is exactly the type of trench on the reverse of the silver center cent in the Judd pattern book and arose because the silver plug did not fit perfectly in the copper planchet. The obverse is not from the Judd piece. Because there is no plug in the submitted piece, it is obvious that both faces are cast from a piece or pieces with plugs.

The diagonal milling on the edge has been rolled on after the piece was made. This is contrary to coining procedure. The troughs between the edge reeds are visible from both surfaces and should not be. The edge treatment after coinage indicates that this was used to conceal a joinder line between the two electrotypes sides.

The coin before edge milling was possibly copper plated to eliminate any joinder line or joinder defect. The plating might have been after milling.

The submitted piece was produced by making electros from casts of the surfaces of one or two silver center cents. It is filled between molds of these surfaces. It was then milled. The difference in quality between obverse and reverse is the result of trying to create a coin which cannot be compared to both surfaces of the same coin.

American Numismatic Association Certification Service

April 22, 1974

Page 2 -

The submitted piece is a forgery and is returned herewith. It is deceptive unless carefully examined.

We hope we have been helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eric P. Newman", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

Encl.



CERTIFICATION, REGISTERED NO.

AFTER EXAMINATION OF THE

PHOTOGRAPHED COIN SHOWN ON THE OPPOSITE
SIDE OF THIS CERTIFICATE, IN OUR OPINION IT IS A GENUINE,
ORIGINAL COIN AS DESCRIBED, AND HAS BEEN REGISTERED THIS
DATE TO

ANACS CERTIFICATION SERVICE

19

Charles Koshine

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP?

FOR VALUE RECEIVED I (WE) HEREBY SELL AND ASSIGN TO

OF

THE COIN PHOTOGRAPHED ON THE REVERSE OF THIS CERTIFICATE.

19

THIS IS NOT AN ANACS CERTIFICATE

False

5/22/78

Opinion given

#6816

ANACS



Opinion given 4/22/74

108/10

From ANACS Nov 1977



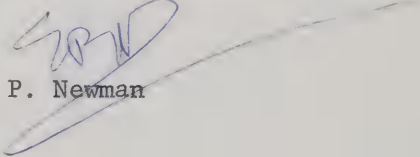
Spencer Seven 4/12/74

2/8/50

From ANACS Nov 1977

Re: Silver Center Cent

Mrs. Norweb told me over the telephone today that her Silver Center Cent is the Parmelee specimen and that she has had it since about 1920. She said she also has the Parmelee piece which has the mixture. She told me she did not want this pedigree advertised but would resent the publication of false information and would not hesitate to write the newspaper or the Federal Trade Commission about it. She said there was nothing that could be done about the use of her name and mine in the advertising.


Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

9/18/74



WESTERN PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.

September 19, 1974

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

I had not thought about the silver center cent for quite some time and your phone call caught me by surprise. I spent an hour or so this morning looking for information and in only that short time I am able to completely destroy the monstrous pedigree listing presented by Messers. Breen and Ford.

Interesting enough, when Ford sold the previously offered piece I contacted him with corrections to the pedigree listing he made up at that time. A copy of his reply is enclosed. Apparently he did not look into it as promised.

Or perhaps he did - because the specimen illustrated as being in the current Pine Tree offering is the very Appleton specimen (ex Massachusetts Historical Society) that I told Ford about.

This is astounding considering the concocted pedigree they give for this coin. The Davis-Jenks specimen they claim it to be is illustrated in both catalogs and is certainly not the one shown in the Pine Tree ad.

The illustration in the Red Book was lifted from the Bushnell catalog. This specimen reappeared in the collections of Parmelee, Earle, Smith and Wurzbach, and was then sold by New Netherlands in 1958.

Their pedigree Number 7 is probably the closest to being correct although I do not know if Brand ever owned it. It is the only piece in worn condition.

I did not attempt to make a detailed search to clarify the situation any further but in my hasty look I found photographs

Mr. Eric P. Newman

-2-

September 19, 1974

of five distinctively different specimens. These are illustrated in the JUDD PATTERN BOOK, JENKS CATALOG (ex Davis), MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY which I photographed there (the one illustrated in the Pine Tree ad), the Bushnell - Red Book coin, and the Morganthau piece.

I should imagine you could easily get a photo of the Garrett specimen and suspect that it is not one of the above but probably cannot be traced beyond Ellsworth.

If you plan to make a project out of this I would be delighted to help but do not care to do it on my own right now because of a lack of time. Enclosed is a copy of the 1958 New Netherland's auction page. I am fairly complete on auctions back to 1870 but rather spotty prior to that and I do not have the 1863 Cogan sale that you requested.

Sincerely,

WESTERN PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.



Kenneth E. Bressett, Manager
Whitman Coin Products

KEB:jt
Enclosures

New Netherlands Coin Co., Inc.

SUITE 401

1 WEST 47TH STREET

NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

PHONES PLAZA 7-5245-6

December 17, 1958

Mr. Kenneth E. Bressett
28 Woodbury St.
Keene, New Hampshire

Dear Ken:

Many thanks for your letter of December 11.

Enclosed you will find the two Green Monographs together with invoice for Three and One Half Dollars. This is just a bookkeeping detail, as we will send you a price list of our Fifty Second Sale when available.

You might be surprised to know that our detailed description re lot 104, the Silver-Center Cent, brought a fantastic Twenty Three Hundred Dollars, for the piece. Both WB and I appreciate the dope on the Appleton specimen, but are not as yet sure if this is a seventh example or just one of those already known. Will look into this!!

Some day soon I would like to talk to you about publishing on Vermont Cents, among other items.

Very best personal regards, in which all join, and very best wishes for a Happy Holiday and most prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

NEW NETHERLANDS COIN CO., INC.

John J. Ford, Jr.

JJF:EH

September 19, 1974

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

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September 19, 1974

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Sincerely,
WESTERN PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.

Kenneth E. Bressett, Manager
Whitman Coin Products

KEB:jt
Enclosures

Pickwick Stamps and Coins



Oct. 7, 1974

Mr. Kenneth E. Bressett
Whitman Coin Products
1220 Mound Avenue
Racine, Wisc. 53404

Dear Ken:

Regarding the 1792 silver centered cent, my specimen came from Sol Kaplan, sometime in 1960 or early 61.

It was the former Carl Wurtzbach specimen, with the slight acid type fine corrosion at 3 o'clock as noticed in photo. I sold this specimen to Tom Ryan, coin dealer from Chicago, who pleaded with me to sell it to him, he is now located at this address, Tom Ryan Coin Shop 123 Yorktown Shopping Center, Lombard, Ill. 60148 he can fill you in with the rest, though I have seen this specimen advertised about 4 years ago, but don't recall who had it, could of been the Kagin's. Don't know where it is to-day. Oh yes, I sold this ~~piece~~ piece to Tom, sometime in the early sixties for \$6,500 (OH BOY).!!!!!!!!!!!!

The sixpence is the only coin I did not own in the entire lot of rare colonials I have ever purchased, it is the specimen once held by the Mass. Hist. Soc. My client now deceased, Mrs. Loye L. Lauder, had just purchased this specimen from a coin dealer who had sent it to her for her inspection and approval, needless to say she purchased it, and it now sets in a more or less, in a permanent collection.

I do not know who the dealer was that sold it to her, except that she had paid \$3,500 for the piece.

Ken, might I add that I owned the following on page 58

2 Dime's 3-5 half dimes, silver center cent, XF-AU birch cent 1792 pattern white metal, and to think I had them all at the same time, and like a dope I broke the set up after selling the silver centered cent to Tom, I was so broken up afterwards for having sold it that I just sold the others, also.

If you need any other information, will be glad to help.

Sincerely,

Philip E. Benedetti
"PICKWICK"

P.S. Just thought of it, if you are going to the PNG show in Oak Brook, stop by and we'll have a talk.



Dealer in Fine Stamps, Coins,
Curios, Medals, and Paper
Currency.

Business Address 4312
POST OFFICE BOX 14
STAMFORD, CONN.
Telephone 01-564-2690
203-322-5422

Memo

From



Pickwick

Mr
"P
P.
St

De

I
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to
Co

K:

R
E

Dear Ken:

Just a line to let you
know that I just received
Stacks Auction Catalogue on
Colonial Coins and to
behold on Page 6 of
Sale I find The Silver
CENTER CENT THAT I ONCE
OWNED. THE HAVE NO
Indigues as they did not look
to hard - it is the Carl Warty back
Specimen listed in the 1914 MS
MONOGRAPH - I had the book loaned
it out never got it back Had
a nice time and good show. See
you next week

Phil

PHILIP BENEDETTI • BOX 4818 • STAMFORD, CONN. 06907

even me on

In but hope
in an old
to send.

ANY, INC.

anager

JULIAN LEIDMAN
DEALER IN RARE COINS
8439 GEORGIA AVENUE
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20910

(301) 585-8467

10/7/74

Dear Len,

In response to your request for info.
on the 1792 S.C. & I now have, I
can give you the following:

It is Dr. J. H. Judd's coin T-1 and
pictured as such in his reference work on
U.S. Patterns. I'm sure you have some
picture of it in your office. The weight
of this coin is $75\frac{1}{2}$ grains.

I know there is some kind of friction
involved between Mr. N. and John Ford
but John has been doing some work with the
S.C. & and he could possibly help here also.
Hope this helps. Best wishes,
Julian

Bowers and Ruddy Galleries

6922 Hollywood Boulevard / Los Angeles, California 90028 / Telephone: (213) 466-4595



October 14, 1974

Mr. Kenneth E. Bressett, Manager
Whitman Coin Products
Western Publishing Co., Inc.
1220 Mound Ave
Racine, WI 53404

Managing Directors:

James F. Ruddy
Nancy Ruddy
Q. David Bowers

Rare Coin Sales and Research:
Bowers and Ruddy Galleries

Rare Coin Auction Sales:
American Auction Association

Dear Ken:

Thank you for your letter with regard to the 1792 silver centered cent. I am presently in correspondence with the person who purchased the specimen from the Major Lenox R. Lohr Collection with the thought that he might possibly consign it to one of our sales. So, I hope to have some news on this within the next month or so. I am sorry to say that I do not have a photograph of this or any other Lohr pieces. This is unfortunate, but at the time the pieces did sell quickly and no photographic record was kept of them.

We have had at least two silver center cents without the silver center--pieces made of fusible alloy. One of these has been advertised in our recent Rare Coin Review issues (and has recently been sold), and the other appeared as part of the Lohr Collection. If memory serves, both were in about the same condition. I believe that someone once said that Frank Stewart found several specimens of these when he acquired the original U. S. Mint property around the turn of the century. However my memory may not be correct in this regard.

Best wishes with your project. I am sure it will be superb as always!

Best wishes,

Q. David Bowers

g

Col. James W. Ellsworth 1923 via Wayne Raymond

P. Henry Nowak

Peter Lockwood

x Elder sale 1908 lot 116

Robert C.W. Brock

University of Pennsylvania

Philip H. Ward

New Netherlands c. 1957

R.C. Davis 1890 #10082

John Story Ginks #5569 (1921)

Newcomer

Boyd

A. Kosoff - Sol Kosoff

Dobmann col # 437^{max}₁₈₆₂ Woodward

H. Ely lot 444 Jan 1884

B. Gmelton

Warner (Chapman 1864) lot 3215

Newman

Edward Cogan April 1863 lot 1075

Cushnell lot 1766 (owned by L. G. Barnette) 1812

Harlan P. Smith (1906 auction) lot 1315

Earle lot 2179 (1912)

A. L. P. P. P. P.

C. Roman

Parmelee (1890) #5

H. P. Smith 1936 "from Bushnell"

Carl Wurybeck

Virgil Brock ?

R. Henry Noyes to New Netherlands c 1957

Elliot Landan

New Netherlands 52nd sale (1958) lot 104 - bought by Romano

J. G. Michley (1867) # 2135

Col M. S. Cohen 1875 lot 350

→ Pictured in: Parmelee, ANS 1914 exhibit, Standard Cat., Gundersen

George F. Seavely (before 1863) # 842 his cat. purchased by Parmelee

George Woodriddle 1892 (Prokey + Smith) #1

Eden sale Oct 1907

J. C. Morgenthau Oct 18, 1933 # 78

Benjamin Harris sale Jan 1863 # 750

Michley 1867 # 2135

Cohen (Cogan, 1875) # 350

Philip's Benedetti

Samuel Lohr

M. H. S.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

September 19, 1974

Mrs. Margo Russell
Coin World
P. O. Box 150
Sidney, Ohio 45365

Dear Margo:

I believe that the advertisement of Pine Tree Rare Coin Auction Sales on page 70 on September 18, 1974 issue is not the type of advertising which is good for numismatics because of its inaccuracies and omissions.

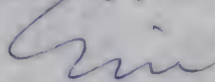
A. With respect to coin number 5, the pedigree does not match the coin in that I did not acquire it from E. G. Johnson. Its stated prior ownership does not check out because it weighs 80 grains instead of 73 as published in the Harlan P. Smith Collection Sale Catalogue. No one asked me about the provenance of my piece or the error would not have been made.

B. Virgil Brand is indicated as being an owner at one time or another of four of the pieces, being numbers 1, 5, 6 and 7. His inventory record book shows that he did not have in his collection any silver center cent.

C. No one asked for permission to use my name as an owner, yet number 3 which is the piece being sold does not even list the present owner and number 4 only identifies its present owner as a Long Island collection and does not give the name which is apparently known.

I realize that there are a substantial number of unknown matters admitted in the advertisement, but I certainly believe that a better effort should have been made to be more accurate, particularly when names are used, condition order is set out and pedigrees are detailed. I wonder how the other two named owners of the pieces will react to this advertising.

Sincerely yours,



Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

bcc: Mrs. R. Henry Norweb
Mr. Julian Leidman

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

September 19, 1974

Mrs. Margo Russell
Coin World
P. O. Box 150
Sidney, Ohio 45363

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A. With respect to coin number 5, the pedigree does not match the coin in that I did not acquire it from B. G. Johnson. Its stated prior ownership does not check out because it weighs 80 grains instead of 73 as published in the Harlan P. Smith Collection Sale Catalogue. No one asked me about the provenance of my piece or the error would not have been made.

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Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

bcc: Mrs. R. Henry Norweb
Mr. Julian Leidman

Bowers and Ruddy Galleries

6922 Hollywood Boulevard / Los Angeles, California 90028 / Telephone: (213) 466-4595



October 11, 1974

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Ave
St. Louis 5, MO

Managing Directors:

James F. Ruddy
Nancy Ruddy
Q. David Bowers

Rare Coin Sales and Research:
Bowers and Ruddy Galleries

Rare Coin Auction Sales:
American Auction Association

Dear Eric:

Thank you for your letter of September 23rd which was waiting for me when I returned from a trip to Europe.

I think you should contact the firm in question concerning the wrong pedigree. It has been my experience that the use of pedigrees and, even more so, the listing of specific numbers of pieces of coins known has been quite abused in the past. Very often I will look at descriptions of coins (and I am not referring now to the descriptions given by any one particular firm) and see what is given as a definitive listing of specimens number 1, 2, 3, and so on--with no mention given that there might be additional specimens. At the same time in my own mind I might know of four or five or more of these coins which have pass through my hands--and which are not represented in the listing. I consider such cataloging to be irresponsible.

I am aware that the coins I purchased from you were not duplicates but were sold by you on behalf of someone else. I am sorry if my letter did not state this correctly.

I look forward to seeing you again at one of the shows.

With best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Q. David Bowers

g

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63130

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

January 19, 1976

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil
Saint Louis, MO 63105

Dear Eric:

This letter is a report on the two coins you placed in my hands for technical examination: 1) 1792 silver-center cent; 2) 1795 half cent. I have examined both pieces under a microscope, carried out a specific gravity determination, had x-radiographs taken, and examined the elemental composition of the coin surfaces with an electron microprobe attachment on a scanning electron microscope. The x-ray photographs were taken by Mr. Paul Sinn, Administrator, St. Louis Testing Laboratories, Inc. (I was present to handle the coins). The electron microprobe analysis was carried out with the assistance of Dr. David Zimmerman, Director of the Washington University Center for Archaeometry, in the Laboratory for Space Physics, Washington University. I thank both these gentlemen for their assistance, and hope that the Director of ANACS will write Mr. Sinn directly to thank him: St. Louis Testing Laboratories, Inc. 2810 Clark Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63103.

1. 1792 silver-center cent

The specific gravity of this piece is 10.18 ± 0.02 . This corresponds to a composition of 83% silver, 17% copper, but the presence of copper and gold on the surface makes this composition figure unreliable. The electron microprobe analysis samples a layer only about one micron (4×10^{-5} inches) thick. The concentration of copper in this surface layer varies over a tenfold range, being greatest in the regions which have the appearance of copper (e.g. below STATES on rev.) and lowest at the "silver center." Surprisingly, there is a rather large concentration (20-50%) of gold in this surface layer. Since this much gold would raise the density of the coin above 11, it is clear that we are dealing with a surface plating. It appears then that the surface is of high silver content (consistent with the specific gravity) thinly plated with gold and copper. In the three spots scanned (on the "center," below the "center" and below STATES, all on the rev, gold concentration increased with increasing copper concentration). The electron microprobe revealed that the composition is very similar within and just below the "silver center" on the reverse.

The x-radiographs indicated the coin to have an opacity to x-rays characteristic of a metal much higher in atomic number than copper. The x-ray opacity is fairly uniform over the surface of the coin, revealing no voids or core

Mr. Eric P. Newman
January 19, 1976
page 2

within the coin. The most significant information from the radiographs is that the "silver center" is in fact not a separate plug but is continuous with the rest of the coin. The partial outline of the plug which shows up on the radiographs is merely an incised outline. A polaroid photograph of a radiograph taken at a 15° tilt from the vertical is enclosed.

Venturing out of the analytical sphere, it should be pointed out that there are indications, visible under an optical microscope, of what is either a seam or a lip on both faces of the coin just within the edge above the denticles. On the obverse this shows up most clearly above the colon between INDUST and LIBERTY, on the reverse above the U of UNITED and ICA of AMERICA.

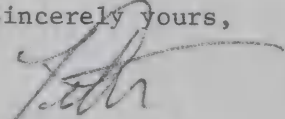
The composition and plating of this coin and the simulated plug make it obviously something other than an original silver-center cent. My guess is that it is an electrottype.

2. 1795 half cent

Under an optical microscope there are many pits. The specific gravity is 8.89 ± 0.01 which compares favorably with literature values for pure copper of 8.92, 8.94 and 8.89. The electron microprobe indicated that the copper is quite pure, no other element being definitely detected. The x-radiography did not display any inhomogenetics. A rather poor photograph of the radiograph is enclosed.

I hope this information is useful to you.

Sincerely yours,



Peter Gaspar
Professor of Chemistry

PG/eph

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 23, 1976

REGISTERED MAIL

Mr. Charles R. Hoskins
ANACS
Box 87-Ben Franklin Station
Washington, D. C. 20044

Dear Charles:

I am enclosing herewith opinions on all coins now in my possession and the coins themselves.

I particularly would like a picture of the face and back of B-4760 which is a Bar Cent. A full picture of the coin is what I wish, rather than a picture of part of it.

B-3776 1783 Chalmers Shilling Short Worm. I revise my former opinion from genuine to false. The specific gravity at 9.0 is low for silver. The edge is plain and is not crudely milled as all genuine pieces are. The weight of 28 grains is only about half of the normal weight of these pieces. There is wax casting deterioration of the lower serif in the S of SHILLING, on the lower serif of the E in ONE, and in the upper part of L in CHALMERS. These did not result from poor striking or damage from wear. I am glad to correct my opinion of the coin to that of a very well made electrotype.

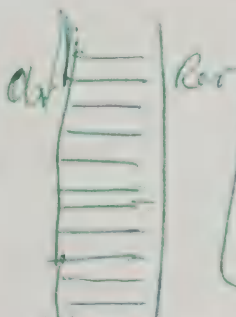
A-3795 1792 Silver Center Cent. 81.6 grains. Sp. gr. 10.18. This piece is not made with a plug in a holed planchet but is one solid piece. It is composed of about 83% silver ~~mixture~~ instead of a copper piece with a small silver plug. It is plated with thin surfaces of both gold and copper to produce a proper color. It has no voids or core in the interior. It has vertical milling. The trench around the "plug" area on the reverse is identical to the characteristic of a piece from which other electros have been made. This is a superb copy in the wrong material. The 7 in the date is weak. False. (See election microprobe report).

B-4032 1795 U.S. Half Cent with very weak 5 in date. Wt. 121.3 grains. Sp. gr. 8.9. Cohen 5-B. Thick planchet. Plain edge. It is a 6 grains heavier than the average of pieces noted by Cohen. Its edge is bright from handling while the faces are dark and normal. It has a proper ring. Although ~~a~~ suspect, it is genuine in my opinion. (See election microprobe report).

A-4522 1776 Continental Dollar Wt. 16.0704 grams. Sp. gr. 7.4. EG Fecit. Very black. Back is very weak. Plain edge. False.

C-0246 1776 Continental Dollar Wt 14.9656 grams. 1-C. Sp. gr. 7.4. Proper color. Strong edge. Good die break. Dark within links. Reverse is offset 45° clockwise if turned on vertical axis. Genuine.

A-3448 1799 U.S. Cent over 98. Sheldon 188. Genuine.



Silver Center Cent
The edge works into the obverse perfectly but no red lines extend into the reverse and there is where the joint probably is

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 23, 1976

REGISTERED MAIL

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ANACS
Box 87-Ben Franklin Station
Washington, D. C. 20044

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- ✓ A-3448 1799 U.S. Cent over 98. Sheldon 188. Genuine.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

July 23, 1976

Mr. Arthur Fitts III
American Numismatic Association
Box 2366
Colorado Springs, CO 80901

Dear Arthur:

I was pleased to see that there was donated to the ANA a 1792 pattern cent with the silver and copper mixed. I was wondering whether ANACS has passed on this item or not. I believe it is important for the ANA to use its own service in connection with this item.

I will see you at the Convention, and in the meantime I look forward to hearing from you.

Kindest regards,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

August 2, 1976

Mr. Charles Hoskins
American Numismatic Association Certification Service
Box 87 Ben Franklin Station
Washington, D. C. 20044

Dear Charles:

I am told by Arthur Fitts III that the 1792 Pattern U.S. Cent given to the ANA was previously sent to ANACS and was given an "uncertain" status.

Did I see it? If so, please send me your number as I have seen several.

I am sending ANACS, with my compliments, a copy of my revision of Early Paper Money of America.

Kindest regards to all of you,

Sincerely yours,

EPN
atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

CERTIFICATION SERVICE

CHARLES R. HOSKINS

Director

P.O. Box 87, Ben Franklin Station

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20044

August 19, 1976

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

Dear Eric,

The 1792 Pattern U.S. Cent which ANACS received on June 10, 1976 (assigned control number C-1589) was not sent to you for examination because we were not allowed enough time for a thorough study. The piece had to be delivered to ANA Headquarters, Colorado Springs, on July 5.

This coin was quite severely worn, and while we at ANACS could find no specific reason to believe it to be a forgery, the condition of the piece was such that we could find no basis for issuing a certificate.

If more time had been available for the examination we would have sent it to you. But once we had carried our in-house examination as far as we knew how, without results, the remaining time was too short to allow us to send it to you and have it returned.

The coin is probably genuine, in our opinion. If you are interested, probably we can get it back so you can study it. If you wish to do so, let me know and we'll pursue it.

The copy of your new edition of The Early Paper Money of America has just arrived and we are pleased to add it to our reference library. Thank you for your thoughtfulness in this matter.

Sincerely,

Charles Hoskins

ABNER KREISBERG
CORPORATION

Professional Numismatists
344 NORTH BEVERLY DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF. 90210
213-271-4281

ABNER KREISBERG—JERRY COHEN



DATE September 26, 1977

TO Mr. Eric P. Newman

P O Box 14020

St. Louis, Mo. 63178

This merchandise is sent on consignment and title does not pass until paid for in full.

1 1792 Silver Center Cent

For Examination & Opinion.

21.5 gr.

74 in water

7.5 diff.

10.87 sp gr \pm

Dent under E of STATES

Dent after E of UN. FE

MEMO

ABNER KREISBERG CORP.

344 North Beverly Drive — Beverly Hills, Calif. 90210

Telephone: (213) 271-4281

Eric Newman

Date:

11/7/77

Subject:

Returning,

Just ret'd from my holiday in India & Nepal — a fantastic experience —

Re your letter of the 20th Oct — kindly advise amt of money involved re the photos etc so I can advise owner — I requested detailed info on past owners etc — when I get this will call you —

Signed

Sincerely,
Abner Kreisberg

SEND ORIGINAL COPY TO ADDRESSEE

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 8, Missouri 63105

November 11, 1977

Mr. Jerry Cohen
Abner Kreisberg Corp.
344 North Beverly Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Dear Jerry:

Welcome back from exciting Asia. My wife and I have been going there for the last six years for our vacations. It is so different everywhere.

As to the 1792 silver (silver center type) cent, the information from the owner is important as I indicated in my last letter. How long has the coin been owned by the present owner, from whom and on what basis was it acquired, what has been done to the coin in the last few years, who has given any opinions on it, who were the prior owners, etc. I am not asking these questions from curiosity, but because they are important in this particular case.

The expense is not nearly as important as the foregoing.

It is a real challenge for me to work on a project like this.

Kindest regards,

Eric P. Newman

jah

ABNER KREISBERG

CORPORATION

Professional Numismatists

344 NO. BEVERLY DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF. 90210

(213) 271-4281

ABNER KREISBERG

JERRY COHEN



November 14, 1977

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

Dear Eric:

Thanks very much for your kind letter of the 11th. One of these days we will have to share some of our experiences in Asia.

As regards the 1792 silver center type cent, I called the gentleman from whom I got the coin and there is very limited information available, but here goes..

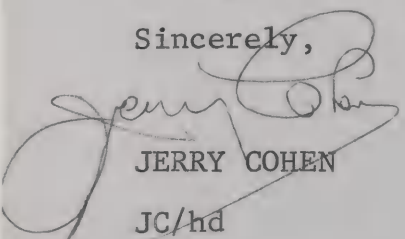
It was acquired in lieu of a loan payment of \$30,000 from a William Shafer of Barbados, who supposedly had acquired this coin from a Connecticut collector. Mr. Shafer is currently unavailable but as soon as possible they will contact him to get the name of the Connecticut collector. The coin was acquired supposedly 18th months ago by Mr. Shafer and I believe if you will contact Lester Merkin he may have some information to supplement what I already told you.

I spoke to the lawyer, in whose possession the coin is currently and I asked him again about Mr. Shafer and how soon we can expect to hear from him and that information is just not available.

Look forward to hearing from you.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,


JERRY COHEN

JC/hd

ABNER KREISBERG

CORPORATION

Professional Numismatists

344 NO. BEVERLY DRIVE

BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF. 90210

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ABNER KREISBERG

JERRY COHEN

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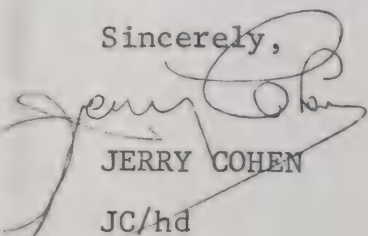
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Look forward to hearing from you.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,


JERRY COHEN

JC/hd

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

November 17, 1977

Mr. Lester Merkin
445 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Dear Lester:

Why do I get into so many mystery coins? Enclosed is a copy of a letter from Jerry Cohen to me dated 11/14/77 indicating that you may know more about the 1792 silver (silver center type) piece. You showed this coin to me in Atlanta in August.

Do you know who has owned it in the last five years and what opinions, if any, have been given about it and by whom and when? Do you know if anyone has tampered with it and, if so, what was done and by whom? Who is William Shafer?

I am working on the coin and need all the information you have on it. Will you write me what you know.

This is important so may I have a prompt answer.

Regards from your researching sleuth.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

LESTER MERKIN

~~65 EAST 50TH STREET~~

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

PLAZA 3-1130

445 Park Ave

11-26-77

Dear Friend researching sleuths -

Examine the enclosed material and call me at your convenience. I shall fill you in at that time.

Herb Bergen called me in N.Y. last Tuesday, but unfortunately I was out of the city.

Lester

212-753 1130

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

3801 West Temple Avenue

Pomona, California 91768

To: ANA

March 18, 1976

From: J L Tomlinson, Ph.D.

Subject: Certification of 1792 silver cent
with silver center

I have observed the subject coin with a metallograph at magnifications from 40 to 100 X. It has quite clear lettering with fairly ~~clear~~ crude lettering. The surface is tarnished probably with silver sulfide. Under the microscope the surface appears pitted by corrosion. This is likely due to chemical attack.

The surface is heavily abraded. The markings are typically nonparallel and seemingly random. Some scratch marks seem to travel from the outer ring to the central disk giving the appearance that the two parts have been rigidly attached for a long time. The ~~boundary~~ boundary appears intimate and non-disturbed as if it had been friction fit. There appears to be no filler metal, solder or adhesive between the two pieces.

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA


3801 West Temple Avenue

Pomona, California 91768

To ANA continued

The word CENT goes from the ring onto the central disk and onto the ring on the other side. The N is simultaneously on both parts and shows continuity by alignment. There is an obvious gap in the N. The C is on the ring adjacent to the disk. It is clear that the stamping operation deformed the metal of the C into the groove separating the two parts so that it looks as if there were a continuous metallic path from the ring into the disk.

In conclusion, it appears that the metal is old, worn, and plastically deformed to the shape it is in.

 P.E.

Jack L. Tomlinson

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING DEPT.
CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE
POMONA, CALIFORNIA 91768

BILL SHAFFER

Norwich 21 -

650-1996 - 213

303-728-3600

OR ELVIN'S #

213- 650-5685 (ans service)

Trevor Phillips?

Maris Collection ALL CONSIGNMENTS INSURED AT OUR EXPENSE
 NJ47 H5 1886 (over)

Philadelphia, Nov 21st 1885

At Newlin

Bought of

STAN. V. HENKELS & CO.,

AUCTIONEERS

No. 1117 CHESTNUT STREET.

Lot

TERMS CASH OR OPEN ACCOUNT.

→
SILVER
PATTERN

24	1798. Silver pl.	19 00
98	1807 Silver	8 25
111	1795 1/2 do	14 00
146	1792 Cent. N. Pattern	67 50
147	1792 Silver do	67 50
189	1874 20¢ piece proof	35 00
190	1875 do do	35 00
191	1896 Centennial Dollar proof	90 00
192	to 208 1877 50¢ proofs	182 00
210 + 211	1877 1/2 proofs 30 each	60 00
212	1878 Colored Dollar	21 00
214 + 215	1878 1/2 B. & Morgan 1/2 each	40 00
218 + 229	1878 1880 Colored pl.	100 00
230	1895 1/2 Colored	110 00
238	1881 5¢ proof	3 00
239	1881 3¢ do	3 00
240	1881 1¢ do	3 70

Bill of sale to
 Newlin from Edward Maris sale.

860.05

Lot

241 to 247	1881-2. 1¢. Proofs	3.60 each	25
248	1883 14 "		5
249	1883 14 do.		5
250	1883 14 do		6
251 to 254	1883-4 14 do.	3.60 each	14
262	1879 Great Medal		16
270	1795. Jefferson Head Cent.		50
273	N. Union 1-		12
276	1865 Iowa Cent.		92
321	1885 1/2 Fed. 1/2 Cop. let.		130
33	Franklin Cent in Al. et.		501
350	to 500 New Jersey		501

Received Payment.
 Edward Maris

6/30/85

Edw. Maris
 Auctioneer
 No. 1117 Chestnut St.
 Phila.

Dear Bill

I've searched everywhere and could only come up with these enclosed coin papers, but they seem to be the needed ones in any case.

Now that the show is over perhaps I won't seem so scattered on the phone. It was a wonderful experience. I really did feel like a star and all modesty aside, looked great! I could only say that to you. Things could be going better here. We've gotten some private money (15,000) to start the house project, but the bank won't finance the balance without a long-term commitment from a Savings & Loan which seems almost impossible. You know the bank trip. They want w-2 forms, your 1st Born Son, etc. I'm getting nervous now because I was counting on the building trip as a starting point to perpetuate my own funds. Oh well - what else is new! Other than going crazy, I'm fine and think of you often. I must admit there's a tender spot in my heart that's a lot bigger than I sometimes allow to show for you. But I do miss you and love you very very much

Carey is beautiful, happy most of the time and healthy + fine. She asks for you all the time. I really do enjoy her, but I've had to let my help go, and pre-school is temporarily out so she does get to me. By the way - this note is dictated straight from Carey.

Dear Daddy -

This is real important. I will be here and will kiss Dusty and Woodstock and my Mom. And my Dad when I see him. That's all for now. P.S. I Love You.
Love, Carey

Oh well, that was the end of her dictation. No prompting from me either. Be happy Sunshine. We love you and you're always with us. And a part of us.

Goodbye for that job interview now. Ugh. I really can't see me teaching at this point, but we'll see what it's all about.

Much Love + White Light
Bobbie Carey
Woodstock & Dusty

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 9, 1978

Mr. Jerry Cohen
Abner Kreisberg, Inc.
344 N. Beverly Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210



Dear Jerry:

You have submitted to us for an opinion as to the genuineness a 1792 U.S. pattern cent purporting to be struck from the dies with which Silver Center cents were struck. Normally two types of planchets were used for genuine Silver Center cent strikings, one with a small silver plug in the center of a copper planchet and one without a plug but made from a mixture of copper with a very small amount of silver.

The most obvious characteristic of the submitted piece is that both the planchet and its purported plug appear to be primarily composed of silver. No coin of this type has ever been known or stated to exist, whether with or without a center plug. In 1792 there was no reason to put a silver plug in a silver planchet because a silver plug was made to insert in a copper planchet to give the coin proper value. The submitted piece is, therefore, unique, without logical purpose, and at most a product of caprice or error and not a trial made in the course of silver center cent experimentation.

It might be argued that the submitted piece was an error created when a silver planchet for a 1792 disme was by inadvertence struck in the 1792 cent dies, but then there would be no reason for a plug to be in such a planchet.

The submitted coin was previously sent to the American Numismatic Association Certification Service (#A-3795) in Washington, D. C., in October, 1975. It then weighed 81.6 grains and had a specific gravity of 10.18. At that time the undersigned examined it and it was plated with a thin surface of copper with traces of gold, but some silver showed through the plating. The surface color was primarily a copper color. The ANACS opinion given early in 1976 was that the coin was not an original.

In March, 1976, the submitted coin was delivered to Jack L. Tomlinson for study. The plating was no longer on it at that time according to his observations and it was apparently darkened with sulfide.

I am advised that it was owned by William Shaffer from whom, when, and under under what conditions he acquired it I am not informed.

The coin was submitted in mid 1977 by William Shaffer to Lester Merkin, a professional numismatist of New York City. On August 16, 1977, the following papers were brought to Lester Merkin by Trevor Philips in an envelope addressed to William Shaffer by someone in the Shaffer family from Telluride, Colorado:

1. Coinage Magazine for December, 1974, containing an article on a Silver Center Cent selling for \$105,000.
2. Photocopy of invoice from the Stan Henkels Sale of the Maris collection listing lot #146 (which was a 1792 U. S. pattern without a silver center) for \$67.50. This sale was in 1886.
3. Report of Jack L. Tomlinson of the Chemical and Materials Engineering Department of the California State Polytechnic College at Pomona dated March 18, 1976 and addressed to ANA (American Numismatic Association) giving an opinion that the metal of the coin is old, worn and plastically deformed to its shape. It is stated that the surface was tarnished with silver sulfide, but no opinion as to the genuineness of the coin was given.

The coin was shown to the undersigned and others in Atlanta, Georgia, at the annual convention of the ANA and soon sent by Merkin at the request of William Shaffer to Terry Fields, a Los Angeles attorney. Terry Fields took it as collateral and submitted the coin to Jerry Cohen of Abner Kreisberg, Inc. in Los Angeles, who sent it to the undersigned for opinion.

The submitted piece is silver in color, weighs $81\frac{1}{2}$ grains and has a specific gravity of 10.13. A picture is attached. The obverse has the following characteristics:

1. Border dentils do not show from 2:30 to 8:30 o'clock.
2. The 7 in the date is very weak.
3. A diagonal dash slopes down to the right from the border touching the right top of D in INDUST.
4. A triangular depression in the center of the neck very close to 5 o'clock of the plug circumference with a small circular depression within the triangle.
5. Two round depressions in a vertical line close to and in front of the chin.
6. Line and dot depression in the field to right of chin point.
7. Round depression in front of and near upper lip.
8. Irregular depression under top stroke of first C in SCIENCE.
9. Circular depression in field near upper left of 1 of date.
10. Diagonal depressed line rising to the right in the field over and near the top of the 7.

11. Circular depression to left of center of left upright of N in PARENT.
12. Group of 6 small depressions in the field to right of the eye.
13. Two circular depressions between ER of LIBERTY and one above space between them.
14. Circular depression in field at left top of crossbar of T in LIBERTY.
15. Long curving line depression in field to right of lower forehead.

* * * * *

The reverse has the following characteristics:

1. An oval depression between TE of UNITED.
2. Two line depressions resembling a sidewise T to the left of the first S in STATES, the stem of the depressed T being 90 degrees offset to the line of the two nearest berries.
3. Line crack, resembling a planchet or die break, beginning at point of dentil above left side of first T in STATES, passing left side of T and continuing to lower right point of A in STATES, then fading off toward the top berry of the wreath.
4. Three depressions in vertical line to right of T in CENT.
5. Top right serif of C in CENT shows no plug line.
6. Plug line is a trench which is very pronounced from 1 to 6 o'clock and narrower from 10 to 1 o'clock and from 6 to 8:30 o'clock.
7. E and left of N in plug are very weak.
8. Dot depression to left of bottom of O in ONE.
9. One circular depression above and one below second A of AMERICA.
10. Diagonal line depression going up to the right below R of AMERICA.
11. Dot depression on top of right upright of M.
12. Three irregular depressions below E of STATES.
13. Border beading is weak between 5 and 7 o'clock but is visible.

* * * * *

Mr. Jerry Cohen
January 9, 1978
Page 4 -

The edge milling reaches the obverse face but does not reach the reverse face. The milling is otherwise complete.

* * * * *

There are various estimates as to how many 1792 small cents are known. A pedigree of 7 Silver Center pieces is listed in a December 18, 1958 sale and a September 18, 1974 sale, but three more are mentioned in a November 11, 1974 sale. Such pedigree identification as is mentioned in these sales is far from clear. Pictures of many of these are available.

X-ray photographs taken of the submitted piece show that the plug is not a separate piece from the balance of the coin but is part of a solid piece. This conclusion is reached because in a clear portion no circular outline whatever can be seen of the separation of two pieces of metal. Another defect noticed in the x-ray picture is a void or open space in the interior of the submitted piece. A void cannot exist in a struck piece because it would be crushed closed and can only exist from a casting bubble or a bubble created in the course of electrolytic transfer.

In the comparison of the submitted piece with a photograph of the Judd piece (illustrated in the Judd book on U. S. patterns) one can notice that on the reverse of the Judd piece the trench around the plug is identical in position and shape to the trench of the submitted piece. The Judd piece is made of copper with a silver plug and has long been known. It is clearly genuine and has been examined by the undersigned when it was owned by Julian Leidman. This trench identity cannot happen on two genuine coins because each fitted plug would have different defects.

Similarly if we compare other characteristics of the Judd piece with the submitted piece, we find each has a weak 7 in the date, lack of border dentils in the same position, weakness of border dentils in the same position, a dented depression within the first C of SCIENCE, the upright of the T shaped scratch to the left of the first S in STATES, the dents in front of the lips and chin, the dents above and below the last A in AMERICA and many of the other scratches and depressions listed above. No two coins can have the same defects.

The submitted piece is thus proven a forgery copied by electrolytic action and casting from the Judd piece and not struck from original dies.

Forgeries of 1792 Silver Center cents are long known. The American Journal of Numismatics of January, 1873 (p. 71) mentions one. I have seen at least five and at one time saw three in one collection. The forgeries are sometimes solid rather than what are known as pieced electrotypes.

The purpose of making the submitted forgery in silver can only be that

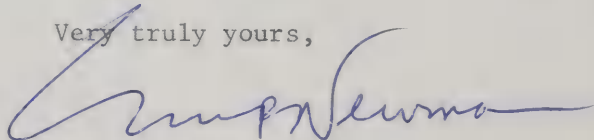
Mr. Jerry Cohen
January 9, 1978
Page 5 -

it was intended to cover the plug area on each side with wax or other insulation and to electroplate the balance of the coin with copper. When the wax or insulation would be removed there would appear the silver surface as a Silver Center in a copper coin. The specific gravity would obviously be wrong just as the submitted piece is. A copper forgery could be silver plated in the plug area in similar fashion. Another choice would be to drill a hole in a copper electrotpe and cut a plug from a silver electrotpe and insert the plug in the other piece mechanically. This would be very difficult to do as elements already having the design on their faces would not make the design joinder appear as a unit.

It is our opinion that the submitted coin is a very well made forgery and the principal reasons for that conclusion are set forth in this letter. The coin should be deposited into a collection of forgeries so that it does not continue to be deceptive to the unwary.

The submitted coin is returned herewith. We hope we have been of service.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eric P. Newman", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

Eric P. Newman

jah

Encls.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

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The most obvious characteristic of the submitted piece is that both the planchet and its purported plug appear to be primarily composed of silver. No coin of this type has ever been known or stated to exist, whether with or without a center plug. In 1792 there was no reason to put a silver plug in a silver planchet because a silver plug was made to insert in a copper planchet to give the coin proper value. The submitted piece is, therefore, unique, without logical purpose, and at most a product of caprice or error and not a trial made in the course of silver center cent experimentation.

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January 9, 1978
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Similarly if we compare other characteristics of the Judd piece with the submitted piece, we find each has a weak 7 in the date, lack of border dentils in the same position, weakness of border dentils in the same position, a dented depression within the first C of SCIENCE, the upright of the T shaped scratch to the left of the first S in STATES, the dents in front of the lips and chin, the dents above and below the last A in AMERICA and many of the other scratches and depressions listed above. No two coins can have the same defects.

The submitted piece is thus proven a forgery copied by electrolytic action and casting from the Judd piece and not struck from original dies.

Forgeries of 1792 Silver Center cents are long known. The American Journal of Numismatics of January, 1873 (p. 71) mentions one. I have seen at least five and at one time saw three in one collection. The forgeries are sometimes solid rather than what are known as pieced electrotypes.

The purpose of making the submitted forgery in silver can only be that

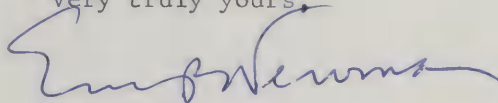
Mr. Jerry Cohen
January 9, 1978
Page 5 -

it was intended to cover the plug area on each side with wax or other insulation and to electroplate the balance of the coin with copper. When the wax or insulation would be removed there would appear the silver surface as a Silver Center in a copper coin. The specific gravity would obviously be wrong just as the submitted piece is. A copper forgery could be silver plated in the plug area in similar fashion. Another choice would be to drill a hole in a copper electrotpe and cut a plug from a silver electrotpe and insert the plug in the other piece mechanically. This would be very difficult to do as elements already having the design on their faces would not make the design joinder appear as a unit.

It is our opinion that the submitted coin is a very well made forgery and the principal reasons for that conclusion are set forth in this letter. The coin should be deposited into a collection of forgeries so that it does not continue to be deceptive to the unwary.

The submitted coin is returned herewith. We hope we have been of service.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eric P. Newman", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Eric P. Newman

jah

Encls.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 9, 1978

Mr. Jerry Cohen
Abner Kreisberg, Inc.
344 N. Beverly Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210



Dear Jerry:

You have submitted to us for an opinion as to the genuineness a 1792 U.S. pattern cent purporting to be struck from the dies with which Silver Center cents were struck. Normally two types of planchets were used for genuine Silver Center cent strikings, one with a small silver plug in the center of a copper planchet and one without a plug but made from a mixture of copper with a very small amount of silver.

The most obvious characteristic of the submitted piece is that both the planchet and its purported plug appear to be primarily composed of silver. No coin of this type has ever been known or stated to exist, whether with or without a center plug. In 1792 there was no reason to put a silver plug in a silver planchet because a silver plug was made to insert in a copper planchet to give the coin proper value. The submitted piece is, therefore, unique, without logical purpose, and at most a product of caprice or error and not a trial made in the course of silver center cent experimentation.

It might be argued that the submitted piece was an error created when a silver planchet for a 1792 dime was by inadvertence struck in the 1792 cent dies, but then there would be no reason for a plug to be in such a planchet.

The submitted coin was previously sent to the American Numismatic Association Certification Service (#A-3795) in Washington, D. C., in October, 1975. It then weighed 81.6 grains and had a specific gravity of 10.18. At that time the undersigned examined it and it was plated with a thin surface of copper with traces of gold, but some silver showed through the plating. The surface color was primarily a copper color. The ANACS opinion given early in 1976 was that the coin was not an original.

In March, 1976, the submitted coin was delivered to Jack L. Tomlinson for study. The plating was no longer on it at that time according to his observations and it was apparently darkened with sulfide.

I am advised that it was owned by William Shaffer from whom, when, and under what conditions he acquired it I am not informed.

The coin was submitted in mid 1977 by William Shaffer to Lester Merkin, a professional numismatist of New York City. On August 16, 1977, the following papers were brought to Lester Merkin by Trevor Philips in an envelope addressed to William Shaffer by someone in the Shaffer family from Telluride, Colorado:

1. Coinage Magazine for December, 1974, containing an article on a Silver Center Cent selling for \$105,000.
2. Photocopy of invoice from the Stan Henkels Sale of the Maris collection listing lot #146 (which was a 1792 U. S. pattern without a silver center) for \$67.50. This sale was in 1886.
3. Report of Jack L. Tomlinson of the Chemical and Materials Engineering Department of the California State Polytechnic College at Pomona dated March 18, 1976 and addressed to ANA (American Numismatic Association) giving an opinion that the metal of the coin is old, worn and plastically deformed to its shape. It is stated that the surface was tarnished with silver sulfide, but no opinion as to the genuineness of the coin was given.

The coin was shown to the undersigned and others in Atlanta, Georgia, at the annual convention of the ANA and soon sent by Merkin at the request of William Shaffer to Terry Fields, a Los Angeles attorney. Terry Fields took it as collateral and submitted the coin to Jerry Cohen of Abner Kreisberg, Inc. in Los Angeles, who sent it to the undersigned for opinion.

The submitted piece is silver in color, weighs $81\frac{1}{2}$ grains and has a specific gravity of 10.13. A picture is attached. The obverse has the following characteristics:

1. Border dentils do not show from 2:30 to 8:30 o'clock.
2. The 7 in the date is very weak.
3. A diagonal dash slopes down to the right from the border touching the right top of D in INDUST.
4. A triangular depression in the center of the neck very close to 5 o'clock of the plug circumference with a small circular depression within the triangle.
5. Two round depressions in a vertical line close to and in front of the chin.
6. Line and dot depression in the field to right of chin point.
7. Round depression in front of and near upper lip.
8. Irregular depression under top stroke of first C in SCIENCE.
9. Circular depression in field near upper left of 1 of date.
10. Diagonal depressed line rising to the right in the field over and near the top of the 7.

11. Circular depression to left of center of left upright of N in PARENT.
12. Group of 6 small depressions in the field to right of the eye.
13. Two circular depressions between ER of LIBERTY and one above space between them.
14. Circular depression in field at left top of crossbar of T in LIBERTY.
15. Long curving line depression in field to right of lower forehead.

* * * * *

The reverse has the following characteristics:

1. An oval depression between TE of UNITED.
2. Two line depressions resembling a sidewise T to the left of the first S in STATES, the stem of the depressed T being 90 degrees offset to the line of the two nearest berries.
3. Line crack, resembling a planchet or die break, beginning at point of dentil above left side of first T in STATES, passing left side of T and continuing to lower right point of A in STATES, then fading off toward the top berry of the wreath.
4. Three depressions in vertical line to right of T in CENT.
5. Top right serif of C in CENT shows no plug line.
6. Plug line is a trench which is very pronounced from 1 to 6 o'clock and narrower from 10 to 1 o'clock and from 6 to 8:30 o'clock.
7. E and left of N in plug are very weak.
8. Dot depression to left of bottom of O in ONE.
9. One circular depression above and one below second A of AMERICA.
10. Diagonal line depression going up to the right below R of AMERICA.
11. Dot depression on top of right upright of M.
12. Three irregular depressions below E of STATES.
13. Border beading is weak between 5 and 7 o'clock but is visible.

* * * * *

Mr. Jerry Cohen
January 9, 1978
Page 4 -

The edge milling reaches the obverse face but does not reach the reverse face. The milling is otherwise complete.

* * * * *

There are various estimates as to how many 1792 small cents are known. A pedigree of 7 Silver Center pieces is listed in a December 18, 1958 sale and a September 18, 1974 sale, but three more are mentioned in a November 11, 1974 sale. Such pedigree identification as is mentioned in these sales is far from clear. Pictures of many of these are available.

X-ray photographs taken of the submitted piece show that the plug is not a separate piece from the balance of the coin but is part of a solid piece. This conclusion is reached because in a clear portion no circular outline whatever can be seen of the separation of two pieces of metal. Another defect noticed in the x-ray picture is a void or open space in the interior of the submitted piece. A void cannot exist in a struck piece because it would be crushed closed and can only exist from a casting bubble or a bubble created in the course of electrolytic transfer.

In the comparison of the submitted piece with a photograph of the Judd piece (illustrated in the Judd book on U. S. patterns) one can notice that on the reverse of the Judd piece the trench around the plug is identical in position and shape to the trench of the submitted piece. The Judd piece is made of copper with a silver plug and has long been known. It is clearly genuine and has been examined by the undersigned when it was owned by Julian Leidman. This trench identity cannot happen on two genuine coins because each fitted plug would have different defects.

Similarly if we compare other characteristics of the Judd piece with the submitted piece, we find each has a weak 7 in the date, lack of border dentils in the same position, weakness of border dentils in the same position, a dented depression within the first C of SCIENCE, the upright of the T shaped scratch to the left of the first S in STATES, the dents in front of the lips and chin, the dents above and below the last A in AMERICA and many of the other scratches and depressions listed above. No two coins can have the same defects.

The submitted piece is thus proven a forgery copied by electrolytic action and casting from the Judd piece and not struck from original dies.

Forgeries of 1792 Silver Center cents are long known. The American Journal of Numismatics of January, 1873 (p. 71) mentions one. I have seen at least five and at one time saw three in one collection. The forgeries are sometimes solid rather than what are known as pieced electrotypes.

The purpose of making the submitted forgery in silver can only be that

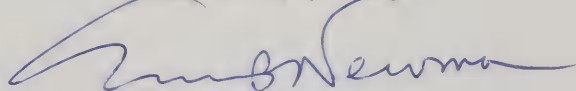
Mr. Jerry Cohen
January 9, 1978
Page 5 -

it was intended to cover the plug area on each side with wax or other insulation and to electroplate the balance of the coin with copper. When the wax or insulation would be removed there would appear the silver surface as a Silver Center in a copper coin. The specific gravity would obviously be wrong just as the submitted piece is. A copper forgery could be silver plated in the plug area in similar fashion. Another choice would be to drill a hole in a copper electrototype and cut a plug from a silver electrototype and insert the plug in the other piece mechanically. This would be very difficult to do as elements already having the design on their faces would not make the design joiner appear as a unit.

It is our opinion that the submitted coin is a very well made forgery and the principal reasons for that conclusion are set forth in this letter. The coin should be deposited into a collection of forgeries so that it does not continue to be deceptive to the unwary.

The submitted coin is returned herewith. We hope we have been of service.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eric P. Newman", with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the name.

Eric P. Newman

jah

Encls.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 9, 1978

Mr. Jerry Cohen
Abner Kreisberg, Inc.
344 N. Beverly Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Dear Jerry:

submitted to
You have asked us for an opinion as to the genuineness of a 1792 ~~U. S. Cent~~ *U. S. pattern cent*. This is the small type of which there are two varieties struck from the same pair of dies, one with a small silver plug in the center of a copper planchet and one without the plug but made from a mixture of copper *with a very small amount of silver* and silver *with the planchet and its purported plug appear to be primarily composed of silver.*

No The most obvious characteristic of the submitted piece is that ~~no~~ coin of this type has ever been known or stated to exist, ~~made primarily of silver~~, whether with or without a center plug. In 1792 there was no reason to put a silver plug in a silver planchet because a silver plug was made to insert in a copper planchet to give the coin value. The submitted piece is, therefore, unique, without logical purpose, and at most a product of caprice or error and not a trial made in the course of silver center cent experimentation.

It might be argued that the submitted piece was an error created when a silver planchet for a 1792 disme was by inadvertence struck in the 1792 cent dies, but then there would be no reason for a plug to be in such a planchet.

The submitted coin was previously sent to the American Numismatic Association Certification Service (#A-3795) in Washington, D. C., in October, 1975. It then weighed 81.6 grains and had a specific gravity of 10.18. At that time the undersigned examined it and it was plated with a thin surface of copper with traces of gold, but some silver showed through the plating. The color was primarily a copper color. The opinion given early in 1976 was that the coin was not an original. *(ANACS)*

coin was delivered
In March, 1976, ~~it was~~ submitted to Jack L. Tomlinson for study. The plating was no longer on it at that time according to his observations and it was apparently darkened with sulfide.

I am advised that it was owned by
~~that~~ William Shaffer ~~acquired it~~ *where* and from whom, and under what conditions, I am not informed.

The coin was submitted in mid 1977 by William Shaffer to Lester Merkin, a professional numismatist of New York City. On August 16, 1977, the following papers were brought to Lester Merkin by Trevor Philips in an envelope addressed to William Shaffer by someone in the Shaffer family from Telluride, Colorado:

January 8, 1978

Mr. Jerry Cohen
Abner Kreisberg, Inc
344 N. Beverly Dr.
Beverly Hills, Calif 90210

Dear Jerry:

Receipt (as to the genuineness of 1792 U.S. cent.)
You have asked us for an opinion ~~as to the genuineness of~~ a ~~silver~~
~~alleged known as to the design~~ ~~the obverse and reverse are~~ ~~those of the silver center~~
~~cent pattern, made that are are two types of~~
this is the small type of which there are two
varieties struck from the same pair of dies, one with a
small silver plug in ~~the center~~ the center of a copper planchet
and one ~~with the silver and copper~~ without the plug but
made from a mixture of ~~the~~ copper and silver.

The most obvious characteristic of the submitted
piece is that no ~~silver~~ coin of this type has ever been known
or stated to exist made ~~of~~ primarily of silver, whether with
or without a ~~silver~~ center plug. In 1792 there was no reason
to put a silver plug in a silver planchet because a silver
plug was ~~not~~ made to insert in a copper planchet ^{to give the composition}. The
submitted piece is therefore unique, without logical purpose,
and at most a product of caprice or error and not a
trial ~~made in the course of silver center cent experiments.~~

It ~~might~~ ^{the submitted piece} be argued that ~~it~~ ^{was an error} ~~created~~
when a silver planchet for a 1792 dime ~~was~~ ^{struck} in the 1792 cent dies,
was by inadvertence ~~struck~~ ^{struck} in the 1792 cent dies,
but then ~~there~~ ^{there} would be no reason for a ~~silver~~ plug to be
in such a planchet.

It then weighed 81.6 grains
and had a specific gravity
of 10.18.

The ~~submitted~~ coin was ~~previously sent~~ to the American Numismatic Association Certification Service ~~late in 1975~~ (#A3795) in Washington, D.C. ~~in~~ ^{October} 1975. At that time the undersigned examined it and it was plated with a thin surface of ~~gold and~~ ^{with traces of gold,} copper, but some silver showed through the plating. The color was primarily a copper color. ~~The opinion~~ ^{given early in 1976 says that} the coin was not ~~an original~~ ^{and its number was A-3795.} ~~opinion was not known to the~~ ^{defective}

~~By the time the coin~~ ^{It was then} ~~was then~~ ⁱⁿ March, 1976 it was submitted to Jack L. Tomlinson for study. ~~At the~~ the plating was no longer on it ~~at~~ that time according to his observations and it was apparently darkened ~~to~~ ^{with} sulfide ~~the~~. ~~When~~ ^{When} William Sheffer acquired it and from whom I ~~have not been~~ and under what conditions I am not informed.

in mid 1977

the coin was submitted by ~~William~~ William Shaffer to Lester Merlein, a professional numismatist of New York City. On August 16, 1977 the following papers were brought to Lester Merlein by Trevor Philips in an envelope addressed to William Shaffer by someone in the Shaffer family from Telluride, Colorado:

1. Coinage Magazine for December 1974 containing an article on ~~a~~ Silver Center Cent selling for \$105,000.
2. Photocopy of invoice from ^{the} Stan Henkels Sale of the Maris Collection ~~lot~~ ^{lot} #146 (which was a 1792 US pattern without a silver center) for \$67.50
3. Report of Jack L. Tomlinson of the Chemical and Materials Engineering Dept of the California State Polytechnic College at Pomona dated March 18, 1976 and addressed to ANA (American Numismatic Association) giving an opinion that the metal of the coin is old, worn and plastically deformed to its shape, ~~but giving no opinion~~. It is stated that the surface was tarnished with silver sulfide, but no opinion as to the genuineness of the coin ^{was} given.

The coin ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~shown to~~ ^{shown to} the undersigned in Atlanta, Georgia ^{and others} at the annual convention of the A. N. A. ^{coin sent by Merlein} and ~~at the request of William Shaffer to Terry Fields,~~ a Los Angeles attorney. ~~Terry Fields~~ ^{took it as collateral and} submitted the coin to Jerry Cohen of Abner Kreisberg, Inc. in Los Angeles who ^{sent} ~~sent it to~~ it to the undersigned for opinion.

~~The submitted piece is silver in color, weighs 81 1/2 grains and has a specific gravity of 10.13. A picture is attached.~~ The obverse has the following characteristics:

1. Border dentils do not show from 2:30 to 8:30 o'clock.
2. The 7 in the date is very weak.
3. A diagonal dash slopes down to the ~~right~~ ^{right} from the border touching the right top of D in INDUST.
4. ~~A~~ A triangular depression in the center of the neck very close to 5 o'clock of the plug circumference ~~with~~ with a small circular depression within the triangle.
5. Two round depressions in a vertical line close to and in front of the chin.
6. Line and dot depression in the field to right of chin point.
7. Round depression in front of and near upper lip.
8. Irregular depression under top ~~of~~ stroke of first C in SCIENCE.
9. Circular depression in field near upper left of 1 & date.
10. Diagonal depressed line rising to the right in the field over and near the top of the 7.

11. Circular depression to left of center of left upright of N
in PARENT
12. Group of 6 small depressions ^{in the field to right of the eye,} ~~between ER of LIBERTY and~~
~~one above space between them~~
13. Two ~~small~~ ^{circular} depressions between ER of LIBERTY and one
above space between them.
14. Circular depression in field at left top of crossbar of T
in LIBERTY.
15. Long curving line depression in field to right of lower
forehead.

* * * * *

The reverse has the following characteristics:

1. An oval depression between TE of UNITED.
2. Two line depressions resembling a sideways T to the
left of the first S in STATES, the stem of the ~~two~~ depressed
T being 90 degrees offset to the line of the two nearest
berries
3. Line ~~depression~~ crack, resembling a planchet or die
break, beginning at a point of dentil above left
side of first T in STATES, passing left side of
T and continuing to lower right point of A in
STATES, then fading off toward the top berry of the
wreath.
4. Three depressions in vertical line to right of T in CENT.
5. Top right serif of C in CENT shows no plug line.
6. Plug line is a trench which is very pronounced
from 1 to 6 o'clock and narrower from 10 to 1
o'clock and from 6 to 8³⁰ o'clock.
7. E and left half of N in plug are very weak.
8. Dot depression to left of bottom of O in ONE.
9. One circular depression above and one below
second A of AMERICA.
10. Diagonal line depression going up to the right
below R of AMERICA.
11. Dot depression on top of right upright of M.

12. three irregular depressions below E of STATES
13. Border beading is weak between 5 and 7 o'clock but is visible.

the edge has the following characteristics:

- 1. The edge milling reaches the obverse face but does not reach the reverse face.
- * * * * *

~~There are various estimates as to how many~~

179v small cents are known. A pedigree of silver center 7 pieces is listed in a December 18, 1958 sale and a September 18, 1974 sale, but ~~is as~~ three more are mentioned in a November 11, 1974 sale. Such pedigree identification ~~has not been~~ as is mentioned in these sales is far from clear. Pictures of many of these are available.

#

X ray photographs taken of the submitted piece show that the plug is not a separate piece from the balance of the coin but is part of a solid piece. This conclusion is reached because ~~in a clear, positive, no circular~~ outline whatever can be seen of the separation of two pieces of metal. Another defect noticed in the X ray picture is a void ^{or open space} in the interior of the submitted piece. ~~This~~ A void cannot exist in a struck piece because it would be crushed closed and can only exist ~~in a casting~~ from a casting bubble ~~or a pocket~~ or a bubble created in the course of electrolytic transfer.

In the comparison of the submitted piece with a photograph of the Judd piece (illustrated in the Judd book on U.S. patterns) one can notice that on the reverse of the Judd piece the trench around the plug is identical in position and shape to the ~~the~~ trench of the submitted piece. The Judd piece is made of copper with a silver plug and has long been known. It is clearly genuine and has been examined by ~~the~~ the undersigned when it was owned by Julian Weidman. This trench identity cannot happen on two ~~genuine~~ genuine coins because each fitted plug would have different defects.

Similarly if we compare other characteristics of the Judd piece with the submitted piece we find each has a weak 7 in the date, lack of border dentils in the same position, ~~lack of~~ weakness of border dentils in the same position, a ^{depressed} depression ^{within} the first C of SCIENCE, the upright of the T shaped ~~depression~~ scratch to the left of the first S in STATES, the dents in front of the lips and chin, the dents above and below the last A in AMERICA and ~~many~~ many of the other ~~defects~~ scratches and depressions listed above. No two coins can have the same defects.

~~To add to the proof we find defects such as the one~~
~~on each running from the first S in STATES to the top~~
~~edge~~

~~The X-rays of the submitted piece show that the plug is simulated rather than inserted as the X-rays do not show any gap between the plug and the planchet. There are in those parts of the circle where the trench does not exist. The X-rays of the submitted piece show a planchet void which would not exist in struck coins.~~

The submitted piece is thus proven a forgery copied by electrolytic action ~~from~~ ^{and} casting from the Judd piece and not struck from original dies.

Forgeries of 1792 silver center cents are ~~not~~ long known. The American Journal of Numismatics of January, 1873 (p. 71) mentions one. I have seen at least five and at one time saw three in one collection. The forgeries are ~~not~~ sometimes solid rather than what are known as pieced electrotypes.

This means that the submitted piece is made from the Judd piece rather than struck from ~~under~~ from original dies. There is also

a copper cent

~~a forgery of the Judd piece made of copper and having the same characteristics~~

The purpose of making ~~the~~ ^{the submitted} forgery in silver can only be that it was intended to ~~plate the~~ ^{balance of the coin with} ~~the plug area~~ ^{the balance of the plug area} on each side ^{without any insulation} and ~~plate the balance of the plug~~ with copper. This would have produced a silver center cent appearance.

Cover the plug area on each side with wax or other insulation and to ~~plate~~ electroplate the balance of the coin with copper. When the ^{wax or} insulation ^{would be} removed there would appear ^{the silver surface as} a silver center in a copper coin. The specific gravity would ~~be abnormal~~ be wrong ~~but the~~ but there would be great difficulty in ~~matching~~ ^{the design} characteristics if the silver plug ~~were~~ ^{was} put in

mechanically just as the submitted piece is. A copper forgery could be silver plated ^{up the plug area in similar fashion} ~~the same way~~ to another choice would be to drill ^{a hole in a} copper electrotyp and cut ^a plug from a silver ~~electrotyp~~ electrotyp and ~~from the~~ insert the ~~plug~~ ^{piece} in the other mechanically. This would be very difficult to ~~do~~ ^{do} as elements ~~parts~~ already have the design on these faces ~~would not make the design jointly appear as a unit.~~

It is our opinion that the submitted coin is a very well made forgery and the principal reasons for that conclusion are set forth in this letter. The coin should ~~be~~ ^{be} deposited into a collection of forgeries so that it does not continue to be ~~so~~ ^{so} deceptive to the ~~public~~ ^{public} generally.

The submitted coin is returned herewith ~~by return~~ We hope we have been of service

Very truly yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 19, 1978

Mr. Jerry Cohen
Abner Kreisberg, Inc.
344 N. Beverly Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Dear Jerry:

Re: 1792 U.S. Silver Cent with plug

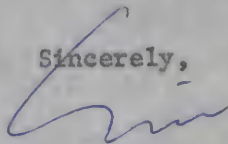
Enclosed is the opinion you requested, and the coin. I had to devote more time than I anticipated, but someone has to do this type of thing. Shaffer must know many more facts and should disclose his source, his action and his contact with Philips. At least I learned a lot from my research.

I would like permission to send copies of my opinion to Lester Merkin, and a few others. I do not know whether your client wishes to make a donation to this organization for the work, but among other things I am out of pocket \$7.50 for photography and \$22.50 for x-ray examination and metal analysis, \$3.00 for registration, etc.

Perhaps he will give me the forgery for my forgery collection.

Let me hear from you.

Sincerely,



Eric P. Newman

jah

Encl.

REGISTERED MAIL

ABNER KREISBERG

CORPORATION

Professional Numismatists

344 NO. BEVERLY DRIVE

BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF. 90210

(213) 271-4281



ABNER KREISBERG

JERRY COHEN

January 23, 1978

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

Dear Eric:

My sincere thanks for your kind letter of the 19th and enclosed letter of the 9th, which fully explains in detail why this is such a dangerous counterfeit (1792 silver centered cent).

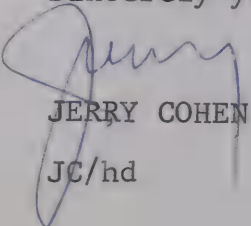
I have called Mr. Fields and will give him a copy of both your letters and in a conversation I just had with him he stated that he would be glad to make a donation for the organization's work involved.

What becomes of the "coin" after this, I don't know, but if you like I will try to keep you posted as to its disposition.

You can send copies of your finding to Lester Merkin and the others such as Walter Breen, whom you feel should know the work that you have gone through.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,


JERRY COHEN

JC/hd

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 27, 1978

Mr. Lester Merkin
445 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Dear Lester:

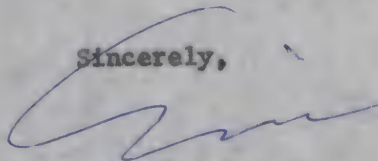
Jerry Cohen has given me permission to send you a copy of my opinion with respect to the silver center type cent in silver. It was fascinating working on this problem.

Have you any idea who made this coin or the exact method by which it was made? This coin, I believe, would be called a solid electro.

Do you know how William Shaffer obtained this coin?

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,



Eric P. Newman

jah

Encl.

bcc: Mr. Kenneth E. Bressett-W/copy of Opinion

1-30-78 - sh
Photocopy to
Richard Pieber
John Hunter
Julian Lederman

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

March 23, 1978

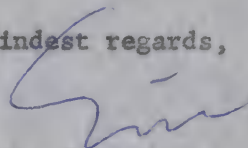
Mr. Jerry Cohen
Abner Kreisberg Corp.
344 North Beverly Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Dear Jerry:

I feel that you should know that I have never received any response for our January 9, 1978 opinion on the silver 1792 Silver Center Cent except your letter of January 23, 1978, indicating you were turning our letter over to the submitter.

I presume the owner of the coin or his client has more facts by now as to prior ownership, etc., and it is those facts which we would primarily like to have.

Kindest regards,



Eric P. Newman

jah

MEMO

From

JERRY COHEN

To

3/27/78

Dear Eric

— I'll see if I can't make up a

reply — the one was supposedly in

town when coin was returned — the

piece will probably turn up again one of these

days!!

Best wishes
Jerry



344 NORTH BEVERLY DRIVE

BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF. 90210

LAW OFFICES
ROSS, FIELDS & ZAX
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
9665 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
EIGHTH FLOOR
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90212

ARNOLD L. ROSS
TERRY R. FIELDS
FREDERICK M. ZAX
PAUL G. ALBERGHETTI
JAMES P. JOHNSON

AREA CODE 213
274-8981

April 3, 1978

Mr. Eric P. Newman
ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

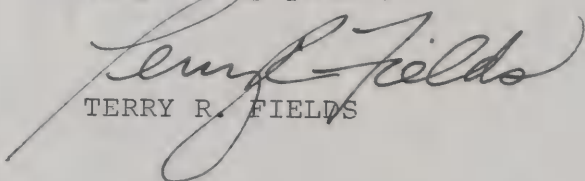
Dear Mr. Newman:

Please excuse our failure to respond to your previous correspondence. Naturally, we are happy to enclose a donation for your organization, which you will find herein.

As Mr. Shaffer has indicated a desire to pursue legal action with respect to the sale of this coin, the coin will remain in Mr. Shaffer's possession until determination of that legal action.

Once again, thank you very much for your excellent report.

Very truly yours,



TERRY R. FIELDS

TRF:lts
Enclosure

cc: Mr. Jerry Cohen

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

April 10, 1978

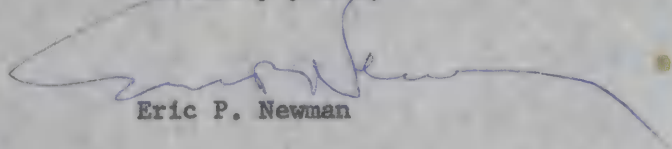
Mr. Terry R. Fields
9665 Wilshire Blvd.
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

Dear Mr. Fields:

Thank you for the contribution to our work.

I had a feeling that someone might have had a problem as to the U. S. Silver 1792 piece I examined for you and I hope you will nevertheless advise me when and from whom it was acquired by Mr. Shaffer. I do not need any other details if litigation is contemplated. I would, however, like a copy of the complaint whenever that may be filed.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eric P. Newman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eric P. Newman

jah

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

October 24, 1978

Mr. John Hunter
ANACS
818 North Cascade
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Dear John:

1792 Silver Center type cent without silver center. Given to American Numismatic Association, see The Numismatist, August, 1976, p. 1734.

Weight 4.5595 grams (70.3 grains).

Specific gravity 8.69.

If genuine, the submitted piece would have to be pure copper or copper with a small amount of silver mixed in the metal. Judd estimates the specific gravity for pure copper would be 8.95 and for copper and silver 9.05. Even if we reduce these figures for some adulteration of metal the lowest reasonable specific gravity for a struck piece would be 8.85. This shows that the submitted piece is false and has internal porosity or voids from its false manufacture. Its weight is normal.

The entire coin appears very worn and very black. Both faces are very lumpy and pocked. The 7 in the date is almost unreadable compared to the other numbers. The weak 7 is on ANACS #0959 on which we gave an opinion of falsity on December 18, 1972. That coin and the submitted piece are apparently both made from the same original coin. There was a similar piece at Harmer Rooke which received publicity in the 6/25/69 Coin World and the 6/24/69 Numismatic News, but that is another matter.

The edge milling is evident from 1 to 7 o'clock if the face is held toward you. There is a trace of milling at 10:30 o'clock also. The balance is lacking. This is not from chemical deterioration.

The submitted coin is false. It is returned herewith.

Very truly yours,

Eric P. Newman

for

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

JAH
Encl.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St Louis 5, Missouri

October 24, 1978

*not
final*

Mr. John Hunter
ANACS
818 North Cascade
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

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The edge milling is evident from 1 to 7 o'clock if the face is held toward you. There is a trace of milling at 10:30 o'clock also. The balance is lacking. This is not from chemical deterioration.

The submitted coin is false. It is returned herewith.

Very truly yours,

Eric P. Newman

for

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

JAH
Encl.

Letter
GPNR

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Colorado Springs
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Given to American Numismatic Assn.,
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original ~~the~~ ^{similar} coin. There was a piece at Harmer, Rooke which
received publicity in the 6/25/69 Coin World and the 6/24/69 Numismatic
News but we ~~the~~ have no facts on it.

The edge mulling is evident from 1 to 7
oclock if the face is held toward you. ~~and~~ There is
a trace of mulling at 10 30 oclock also. The balance
is lacking. This is not from chemical deterioration.

The submitted coin is false. It is
returned herewith.

Eric P. Newman

for

Eric P. Newman Num. Ed. Inc.

10-3-1984

Dear Mr. Newman,

Thank you very much for your help. Enclosed is your negatives of a copy of the faded silver center seal. I look forward to meeting you in person at the conference.

Sincerely,
P. Scott Rubin

Oct 30, 1984

Dear Mr. Newman

Thank you very much for the photos of your Silver Center Cent. They confirmed my thoughts that your coin did not match any other picture I have. I did not make a print of the Judd negative because I thought we both had other photos of that coin. By the way I was able to get a plated copy of Elder's Oct., 1907 auction catalog and the plate matches the Judd coin.

Looking forward to seeing you in a month.

Sincerely
P. Scott Rubin

ANTHONY TERRANOVA

P.O. BOX 985
F.D.R. STATION
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10150
(212) 787-5682


Nov 16, 1993

Eric Newtop
St. Louis, MO.

Dear Mr. Newtop,

This letter will serve as a request
to borrow your 1792 "Silver Center Cent" Pattern
for the purpose of study and comparison
of a new and possibly unique discovery in the 1792
mint pattern series.

Sincerely yours,


Anthony Terranova

Returned Jan 14, 1994

ANTHONY TERRANOVA

P.O. BOX 985
F.D.R. STATION
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10150
(212) 787-5682


Nov 16, 1993

Eric Newtop
St. Louis, MO.

Dear Mr. Newtop,

This letter will serve as a request
to borrow your 1792 "Silver-Center-Cent" Patterns
for the purpose of study and comparison
of a new and possibly unique discovery in the 1792
mint pattern series.

Sincerely yours,


Anthony Terranova

Express Mail
\$75,000 coverage
on express mail
~~Registered~~

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

November 29, 1993

Mr. Anthony Terranova
P. O. Box 985
FDR Station
New York City, NY 10150

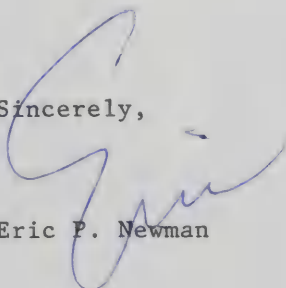
Dear Tony:

When you were in St. Louis, you showed me your 1792 silver center cent missing the silver center. I was delighted to see it as something truly unusual. I presume the silver plug fell out before striking due to the irregular surface of the interior of the hole. The hole in the copper planchet could have been customarily punched out with a nail rather than drilled and then plugged with silver and hammered flat. If the hole was too smooth or the plug too small, the plug could easily fall out during handling. The tightening of the plug by expansion during striking was necessary to hold it firmly.

I am pleased to enclose at your request of November 16 our lovely silver center cent for comparison. I believe it came to me from Fred Boyd. It has a lovely ^{brown} red tone and may be the finest known, or almost. You told me your loss and damage insurance covers its shipment for full value both ways and while it is in your hands. Please return it before the Christmas package rush or after the new year.

My best to you.

Sincerely,



Eric P. Newman

mb

Enclosure

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

November 29, 1993

Mr. Anthony Terranova
P. O. Box 985
FDR Station
New York City, NY 10150

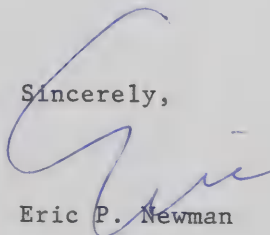
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My best to you.

Sincerely,



Eric P. Newman

mb

Enclosure

ANTHONY TERRANOVA

P.O. BOX 985
F.D.R. STATION
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10150
(212) 787-5682

1/12/94

Eric Newman

Box 14020

St. Louis, MO. 63178

Dear Eric,

I must once again thank you
for letting us have your silver center & for
study and comparison purposes.

Thanks to your showing, and
enabling us to come to my conclusions
about the newly discovered coins we saw
in St. Louis.

Sincerely yours,

Anthony Terranova

NOTICE LEFT
1ST NOTICE DATE 01/14/94 (11:50 AM)
2ND NOTICE DATE ____/____/____
RETURN DATE ____/____/____ INT ____



\$62.39

REGISTERED MAIL

R 640 046 774

November 24, 2000

Joel J. Orosz
4300 Old Field Trail
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63105

Dear Eric:

I have been doing research on an early U.S. numismatist, and that work has led me toward provenance research on (as I believe) one of the great rarities in your collection. If I am right, we can extend the uninterrupted provenance of this coin back to 1851. The numismatist was the Philadelphian Jacob Giles Morris (1800-1854), and the coin in question is your 1792 Silver Center Cent.

I have uncovered evidence that Morris owned one of the 11 or so known specimens in early 1851. He was lost when the steamer *Arctic* went down in 1854. Morris left no surviving children, and his coins went to his sister, Caroline Pennock. Her daughter married William Miller, and Mrs. Miller eventually donated the cream of her great-uncle's collection to the University of Pennsylvania, with the residue being sold by Lyman Low in two 1901 sales.

There was no Silver Center Cent in the Low sales, but the *Bulletin of the Free Museum of Science and Art* for January of 1901 notes among the coins donated by Mrs. Miller a "1792 Large Pattern Cent." Of course, this could have been a Silver Center, Fusible Alloy, or copper pattern, but since I can prove that Morris had a Silver Center, I'm inclined to think this was the very coin. The Morris/Miller collection was deaccessioned by the Museum along with the Brock Collection in 1952, and sold privately to B. Max Mehl. He took out a full-page ad in the January, 1953 issue of *The Numismatist* to announce that purchase.

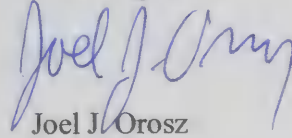
Here the trail runs cold. But, in examining Scott Rubin's COAC 1 submission on the provenances of the eleven known Silver Center Cents, all except one have auction histories that begin before 1952, and that one exception is your specimen, which you obtained, according to Scott's article, from F.C.C. Boyd. I know that Boyd began selling his front-line collections in 1945, but I also know that he did not pass away until 1958 (and Mehl did not die until 1957).

So, the \$64,000 question is: might Fred Boyd have purchased this Cent privately from Max Mehl during the years from 1952 to 1957? If it can be demonstrated that he did, I

think there is a pretty strong circumstantial case that we can build linking your coin directly to one of the first great numismatists in the United States. Of course, without photographic evidence, we cannot be sure, but the chain of evidence looks pretty compelling.

I will be interested to learn if this conjecture on my part has any basis in fact, or if I am all wet. In any case, Eric, I wish you and yours a happy holiday season.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joel J. Orosz", with a stylized, cursive script.

Joel J. Orosz

1st draft
November 29, 2000

To: Joel Orosz
4300 Old Field Trail
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

From: Eric P. Newman

Your interesting letter of November 24, 2000 has priority in my correspondence (1) because of your enthusiastic research and your extensive writing and (2) because I won't be able to sleep well until I give you my thinking on your inquiry. I therefore took 2 hours to find my letter to Fred Boyd dated September 27, 1951, a copy of which is enclosed. You must realize that with over 60 years of correspondence and data in my numismatic files there are some matters under personal names, some under firm names, some on subject or topics, some under written articles, some under mixed pickles, some not filed, etc. Much of it is before photocopies or computers. It is not easy to find what I seek or to remember everything I did or didn't do.

Fred Boyd and I were very good friends and he encouraged my research so extensively I was delighted to do anything he wanted. He had loads of coins and I had a pile myself. He wanted some varieties of my Massachusetts silver and I sent them to him. He asked me if I wanted a silver center cent. I visited him and he handed me 2 dimes and 2 silver center cents and said take one and give back the rest. I realized he was testing me so I took all of them when I recognized one was an electro and said I would return three as he wished. All were fake except one silver center cent which was lovely. He knew that. *there were a few other items in the exchange*

Now you want to know where did Fred obtain that silver center cent. *about July 21, 1951* ~~Found it in 1951~~. You indicate the University of Pennsylvania deaccessioned the Miller and Brock collection in 1952 and Mehl advertised it for sale in 1953. So *it appears* ~~it appears~~.

You say that the Morris-Miller collection had a silver center cent and you can prove it. You may do so as I am most interested.

I believe you are misinterpreting the "1792 Large Pattern Cent" expression used in 1901. This has to be a Birch cent as the silver center cent would be described as small if its size were mentioned.

Now the fun begins so please sit in a comfortable chair. It is not well known what happened to some of the Miller-Brock collection. A member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania (his name slips me for the moment) worked on the collection for years and as I have been told was permitted to take some of the pieces in appreciation for his work. For many years lovely Colonials and early American coins were sold through C.J. Dockhus, a Philadelphia coin dealer who could barely write. These sales ~~and~~ *as* early as 1951 and lasted into 1958. There were gems in it. Dockhus wrote me that an item or so was "from Potts/Miller collections" (tell me who Potts is?) Dockhus offered me in 1958 a 1792 Half Dime and a 1792 Silver center cent

thoroughly
for \$1,200 and I replied that I already had them. Now I have no idea whether they were genuine or not because I did not see them. All of the coins Dockhus had and which I saw were genuine except for some Bolens he asked me about and some Fugio "restrikes". He was honest. ~~It is up to you to figure out what happened to the silver center-cent he offered to me.~~ Mine may have gone to Boyd for appraising the Green Estate, ~~which he did part of~~.

It may be that Dockhus was dribbling out rare American pieces over a period of years as they were turned over to him as he was not financially able to buy a large group and hold them. The party who may have received them from the University may have sold them from time to time through Dockhus rather than let them be on the market all at once.

Mehl apparently only purchased what was offered to him of the immense collection and customarily sold the stuff as fast as he could. I wish I could ask B.G. Johnson but he died beforehand.

I will work on the matter further but wanted to let you know the above first. Keep me informed about my piece as I do not know its earlier history and never really was fascinated by pedigrees when I obtained coins long ago because Johnson told me pedigrees were mostly concocted.

Thrive, Happy Holidays,

P.S. In my opinion my piece is in much better condition than described in the Rubin study. I do not think Rubin ever saw it so he must have accepted the comment of another who didn't see it either.

I am told that the silver center-cent went from Word to Dockhus to Forman to Ford to Naswel.

To: Joel Orosz
4300 Old Field Trail
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

November 29, 2000

From: Eric P. Newman

Your interesting letter of November 24, 2000 has taken priority in my correspondence (1) because of your enthusiastic research and your excellent and extensive writing and (2) because I won't be able to sleep well until I give you my thinking on your inquiry. I therefore took 2 hours to find my letter to Fred Boyd dated September 27, 1951, a copy of which is enclosed. You must realize that with over 60 years of correspondence and data in our numismatic files there are some matters under personal names, some under firm names, some on subject or topics, some under written articles, some under mixed pickles, some not filed, etc. Much of it is before photocopies or computers. It is not easy to find what I seek or to remember everything I did or didn't do or know.

Fred Boyd and I were very good friends and he encouraged my research so extensively I was delighted to do anything he wanted. He had loads of coins and I had a nice pile myself. He wanted some varieties of my Massachusetts silver and I sent them to him. He asked me if I wanted a silver center cent. I visited him in July 1951 and he handed me 2 dimes and 2 silver center cents and said take one and give me back the rest. I realized he was testing me so I took all of them when I realized at least one was an electro and said I would return three as he wished. All were fake except one silver center cent which was lovely. He knew that. There were a few other items in the exchange.

Now you want to know where did Fred obtain that silver center cent. You indicate the University of Pennsylvania deaccessioned the Miller and Brock collections in 1952 and Mehl advertised much of that material for sale in 1953. So the record appears.

Mehl apparently only purchased what was offered to him of the immense holding and customarily sold the stuff as fast as he could. I wish I could ask B.G. Johnson but he died beforehand.

You say that the Morris-Miller collection had a silver center cent and you can prove it. You may do so as I am most interested.

I believe you are misinterpreting the "1792 Large Pattern Cent" expression used in 1901. This has to be a Birch cent as the silver center cent would be described as small if its size were mentioned.

Now the fun really begins so please be comfortably seated as you read on. It is not well known what happened to the Miller-Brock and other University of Pennsylvania holdings of Colonial, Confederation and early US pattern coins. My hearsay indicates Philip Ward, who was a graduate and possible trustee of the University of Pennsylvania and an autograph, stamp and coin dealer in Philadelphia worked on at least the Brock

coin collection in anticipation of the expiration in 1952 of the 1892 sixty year restriction on the sale of the Brock coins. The University wanted to purchase some Egyptian antiquities with the proceeds of its coins. Ward readied the coins (perhaps it included Miller pieces also) for disposition and is said to have been permitted to receive some pieces for himself in appreciation for his work. The released pieces were primarily the Colonial, Confederation and early U.S. pattern coins, not what was sold to Mehl. Whether any Ward gift to the University or a sale to Ward took place at the time I do not know. The released pieces were from time to time turned over by Ward to Charles J. Dockhus (another Philadelphia autograph and coin dealer who could barely write) for sale. There were many superb pieces in the Ward group. The extended private sales by Dockhus of those pieces began as early as 1951 and lasted through 1958. Dockhus wrote to me on one occasion that items he offered me were from "Potts/Miller collections" (I do not know who Potts is so please advise me).

In 1958 Dockhus offered me a 1792 Disme and a 1792 Silver Center Cent for \$1,200 total and I replied that I already had them. I am advised that the silver center cent then went from Dockhus to Forman to Ford to Norweb. I hope the above information which I can only verify in part is a help to you.

As far as our silver center cent is concerned it might have come to Boyd for appraising the E.H. R. Green Estate which he did a part of. Boyd could have obtained it elsewhere. This you can straighten out for me.

I will work on the matter further but wanted to let you know the above first. Keep me informed about my piece as I do not know its earlier history and never really was fascinated by pedigrees when I obtained coins long ago because Johnson told me pedigrees were often concocted. You and others are now straightening out these matters.

Thrive, Happy Holidays,

P.S. In my opinion our silver center cent is in much better condition than described in the Rubin study. I do not think Rubin ever saw it so he must have accepted the comment of another who might not have seen it either.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

To: Joel Orosz
4300 Old Field Trail
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

December 1, 2000

From: Eric P. Newman

Your interesting letter of November 24, 2000 has taken priority in my correspondence (1) because of your enthusiastic research and your excellent and extensive writing and (2) because I won't be able to sleep well until I give you my thinking on your inquiry. I therefore took 2 hours to find my letter to Fred Boyd dated September 27, 1951, a copy of which is enclosed. You must realize that with over 60 years of correspondence and data in our numismatic files there are some matters under personal names, some under firm names, some on subject or topics, some under written articles, some under mixed pickles, some not filed, etc. Much of it is before photocopies or computers. It is not easy to find what I seek or to remember everything I did or didn't do or know.

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December 8, 2000

Joel J. Orosz
4300 Old Field Trail
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63105

Dear Eric:

Thanks so much for your letter of December 1. It reminded me that while I write about numismatic history, you have made it. Your response utterly demolished my hope that we could link your silver center cent to Jacob Giles Morris. First, as you rightly point out, the inventory almost surely referred to a Birch cent, not a silver center, and second, you got the cent from Fred Boyd before the University of Pennsylvania deaccessioned its coins. That is the problem with facts—they keep getting in the way of perfectly good guesses!

Speaking of guesses, my guess is that “Potts” was William John Potts, the author of an article about our old mutual friend, Pierre Eugene Du Simitiere, titled “Du Simitiere, Artist, Antiquary and Naturalist, Projector of the First American Museum, with Some Extracts from His Notebook”, *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* 13 (October, 1889): 341-75.

Now, let's get into the realm of fact. I know that Jacob Giles Morris had a silver center cent because Joseph Mickley saw it. I quote from Mickley's journal:

Philadelphia, January 13, 1852...Mr. Jacob Morris a Coin Collector called to see me to show me a Coin which he pronounced “unique” it was a specimen of One Cent of 1792 of the United States Mint, a little larger than a common Half Cent with a small piece of silver inserted in the center, on the principle of the pattern Coins, which have been struck a few years past at the English & French Mints. It is however not unique for my friend James Hall of Allentown has one in his collection.

The source of this quote is a holographic journal kept by Mickley from January 1, 1852 until late September of that year. I believe it was unknown to numismatists until I found it in Philadelphia this summer while attending the ANA convention. At least, I **think** it was unknown—Champa's volume was for 1866-67—and that was the only one I've ever heard about. I have transcribed all of the numismatic contents of the 1852 version, and am in the process of annotating them for eventual publication. I know that the current issue of *The American Journal of Numismatics* has just been completed, but I am hoping

that this annotated transcription would be worthy of publication in the next issue. If you agree, I would appreciate it if you could point me to the appropriate person at the ANS to approach on this topic.

Back to the hunt: we know from Mickley's passage that Jacob Giles Morris owned a silver center in 1852, but the trail goes cold after he died in 1854, since it can be accounted for neither in the Low sales of 1901, nor in the Miller coins that went to the University of Pennsylvania. I've always thought it odd that none of Morris's coins seem to have gone to his nephew, Richard Wistar Davids, so perhaps some at least did. Davids, however, was killed at Gettysburg, and I've never been able to learn what became of his coins (although I do own three items from his library).

If the silver center cent was part of the Miller gift to the University of Pennsylvania, but somehow not recorded by the curators, I believe that your formulation of Ward to Dockhus to Forman to Ford to Norweb is probably correct. Rubin's listing of the Norweb example gives no provenance prior to the Norweb ownership, so this could very well be the coin.

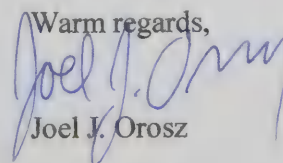
What is revealing about Mickley's entry, however, is that it seems that he did not have a silver center in 1852, but that his friend James Hall (Aug 23, 1773-Nov 26, 1861) did. Hall was the Register of Wills in Lehigh County. According to his obituary, as published in the *Proceedings of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia* from May 4, 1865 to December 31, 1866, Hall sold his numismatic collection, including his library, for \$850 in 1853 on account of his loss of vision. The obit is signed "J.J.M." It seems like a reasonable conjecture that Mickley was the buyer, and that is how he came to own a silver center cent. Hall may have had his a long time, since Mickley says that Hall "commenced collecting coins when he was but 15 years of age, in 1788".

Even if I am correct on this conjecture, however, it doesn't explain where your silver center cent hails from. At this point, I think that your supposition that Boyd may have gotten it from Col. Green is a pretty good working hypothesis, but I have no data to back that up.

Well, drat. But half the fun of research is overcoming the roadblocks, and perhaps we will yet. Just as a heads up, the January issue of *The Numismatist* will run an article I did on Dr. Lewis Roper, in which I will share a number of heretofore-unknown facts about this numismatic pioneer.

Eric, thanks so much for your help and for your interest. I think ours is a good symbiotic relationship, for I will keep on writing history if you will continue correcting history!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joel J. Orosz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joel" being the most prominent.

Joel J. Orosz

Subj: Re: Your Letter Date: 01/18/2001 6:21:34 PM Central Standard Time From: craigs@pa.net (Craig Sholley) To: EricNumis@aol.com
--

I still think I'll issue a correction, readers deserve an accurate story. Your concurrence that the edges are good based on the meeting at ANA also warrants a follow up.

IMHO, it's not possible to tell whether a coin is artificially worn or naturally simply from the weight. The planchets were far too variable (10% and sometimes greater) and this would disguise any abnormal variation.

Best, Craig

 > From: EricNumis@aol.com
 > To: craigs@pa.net
 > Subject: Re: Your Letter
 > Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2001 10:31 PM
 >

There is no need for a correction of your published material for my sake. I

thought the matter was not yet published. I merely have not had the opportunity to study the coins on my own and merely discussed the topic with

Kleeberg as I did with you. I wonder if excessive circulation wear results in

more of a loss of weight than artificial wear from beating on a coin design

with a wood mallet or similar instrument or smoothing the surface of a coin

with cloth or leather in a holder. My impression was that there was very little loss of weight in the strawberries, I would be interested in your comments on this conjecture. I will follow up on the diameter matter promptly. Eric

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <craigs@pa.net>

Received: from rly-xd04.mx.aol.com (rly-xd04.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.169]) by air-xd02.mail.aol.com (v77.31) with ESMTP; Thu, 18 Jan 2001 19:21:34 -0500

Received: from emh1.pa.net (emh1.pa.net [205.166.61.145]) by rly-xd04.mx.aol.com (v77.27) with ESMTP; Thu, 18 Jan 2001 19:21:26 -0500

Received: from craigs.pa.net (duppp30.crl2.cumberland.pa.net [206.228.64.94]) by emh1.pa.net (8.10.2/8.10.2) with ESMTP id f0J0L5M03997

for <EricNumis@aol.com>; Thu, 18 Jan 2001 19:21:05 -0500

Message-Id: <200101190021.f0J0L5M03997@emh1.pa.net>

From: "Craig Sholley" <craigs@pa.net>

To: <EricNumis@aol.com>

Subject: Re: Your Letter

Date: Thu, 18 Jan 2001 19:29:25 -0500

X-MSMail-Priority: Normal

X-Priority: 3

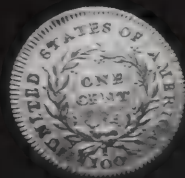
1. The first part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the atom.

2. The second part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the atom.

3. The third part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the atom.

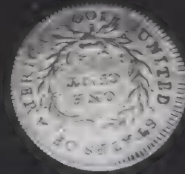
4. The fourth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the atom.

5. The fifth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the atom.



1901

1901



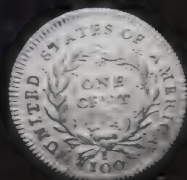
1901

1901

75

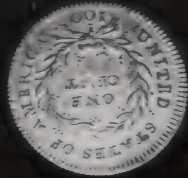
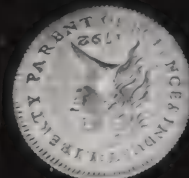
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1



Mass Hist

Jubel

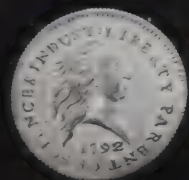


Mass Hist

Jubel

3-

3-



Mass. Hist

Judd



Judd

Mass. Hist

A-

- 4



28/14

CREDIT TO:

ANA

CERTIFICATION SERVICE

818 N. Cascade

Colorado Springs, Colo. 80903



0959

CREDIT TO:

A N A

CERTIFICATION SERVICE

818 N. Cascade

Colorado Springs, Colo. 80903



0959

DATE 10-
A H A

DATE
27
Colony

10-
10-10-10



6816

CREDIT TO:

ANA

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

818 N. Cascade

Colorado Springs, CO 80901



How Hot

World

Proof
here for
Burt
(I call when
I have time)



SPN opinion 1/23/76

4-3795

From ANNALS Nov 1975



2nd Opinion given 1/23/76

A-3795

From ANACS
Nov
1975



58-0415

*George
C. Carter*



GF840440

Euphorbia



6F840440

Wm. P. Newman



Wingfield

GF840440



Ernst Newman

GF840440

File # _____

Box # _____

To Eric Newman from Ed Price

6/2001

Description

Date

Date

Subject

Place

6/9/01	1792 Silver Cent 1792 Seal - EPN Cent.	ST Louis

 PHOTO ARCHIVE  LIGHT IMPRESSIONS
Acid & Lignin free. #4281

Date _____

Subject

Place



1792 Silver Center Cent - EPN

Obs Ed Price photo yr 2001



1792 Silver Center Cent - EPN

Rev

Ed Price photo Yr 2001

Also 1792 028 01 + 05 444444 - 1000 444



1796 JR2 10¢

EPN

cast counterfeit

Obv

Ed Price photo yr 2001



1796 JR2 10¢

EPN

cast counterfeit

Rev Ed Price photo
Gr 2001

File # Box #

To Eric Newman from Ed Price

6/2001

Description

Date

Date

Subject

Place

6/9/01	1792 Disme - ESN	ST Louis
5/01	1792 Disme - IEP (Judd)	Livingston NJ

 PHOTO ARCHIVE LIGHT IMPRESSIONS[®]

Acid & Lignin free. #4281

P.O. BOX 1070
Livingston, NJ 07039

Date _____

Subject

Place

[illegible]



Disinc - EPN ~~0.00~~

Copper

El Price photo
2001

THE END OF THE WORLD IS HERE



Dismc - EPN Rev

Copper

2001

Ed Price

photo

040.240-047 91404 1441442204 043



Disme - Judd (1EP)

Rev

Ed Price photo

<No. 18>019 01+07 NNNNN+08AM 046



Disme - Judd (IEP)

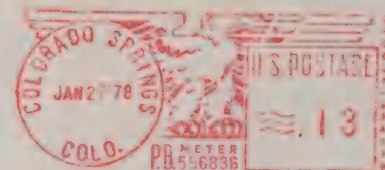
Obv

Isaac Ed Price
photo

16.15.016 01+05 NNNNNN+1000 046

ANACS

818 N. Cascade
Colorado Springs, Co. 80903



Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63105

First Class

~~THIRD CLASS~~



A. 3795⁻

All silver forgery
taken when it had
copper plating.

CERTIFICATION SERVICE
818 N. Cascade
Colorado Springs, Colo. 80903



A-3195

All silver jewelry
taken when it still had
copper plating on it.

A. W. ...
CERTIFICATION SERVICE
818 N. Cascade
Colorado Springs, Colo. 80903



Jerry Cohen
Oct 1977

Cohen

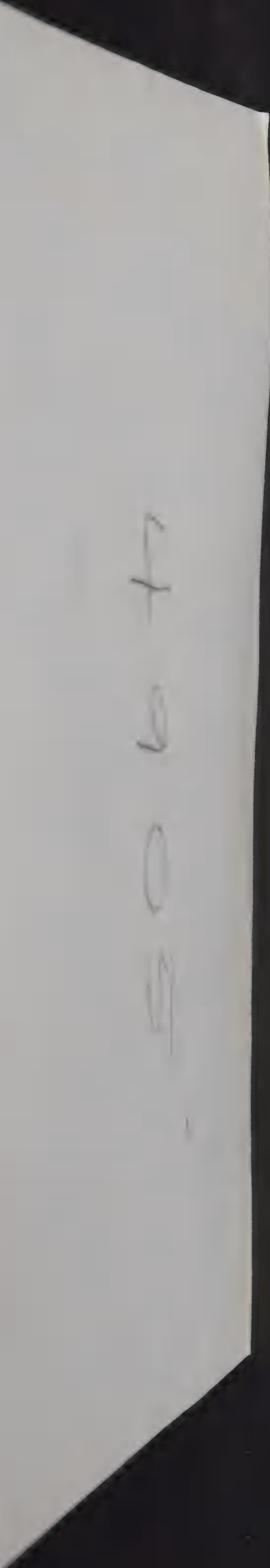
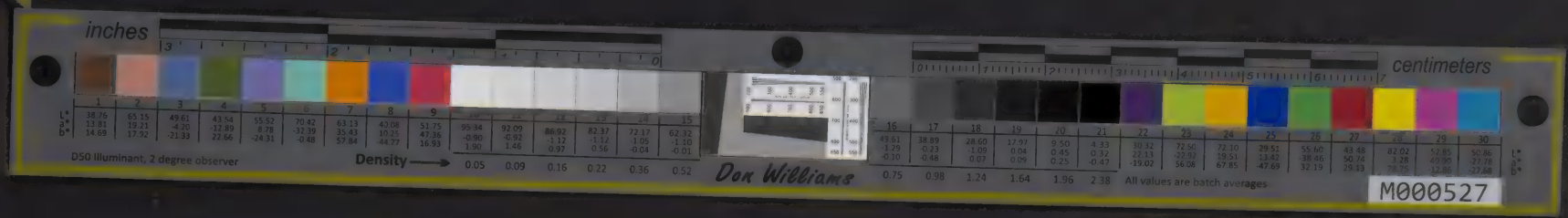
Jerry Cohen
Oct 1977



649



4905



4905



St. Louis Testing Laboratories, Inc.



2810 CLARK AVENUE • ST. LOUIS, MO. 63103



ST. LOUIS TEST

No.

DATE

NAME

ADDRESS

REMARKS:

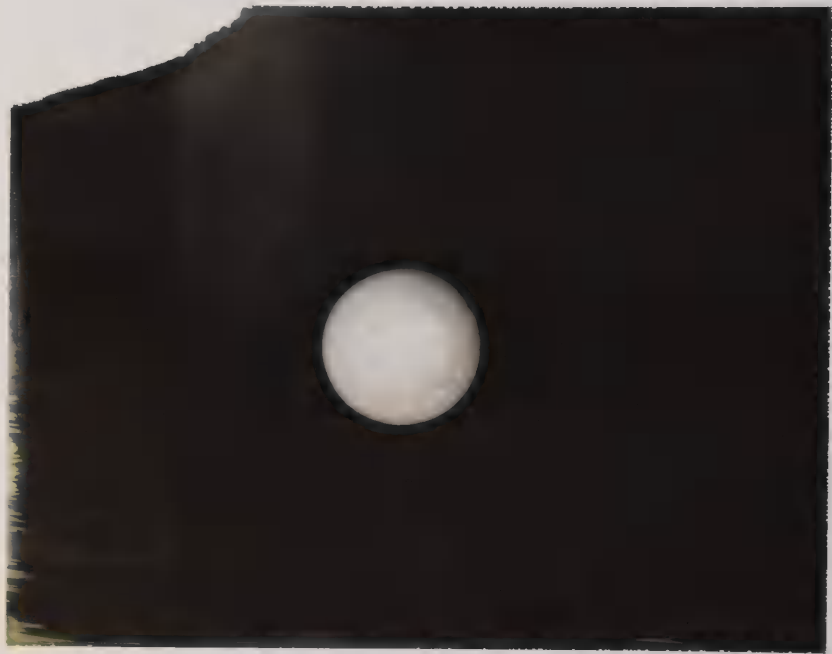
NEW SUPER VOLTAGE X-RAY EQUIPMENT

X-RAY AND GAMMA FIELD RADIOGRAPHY

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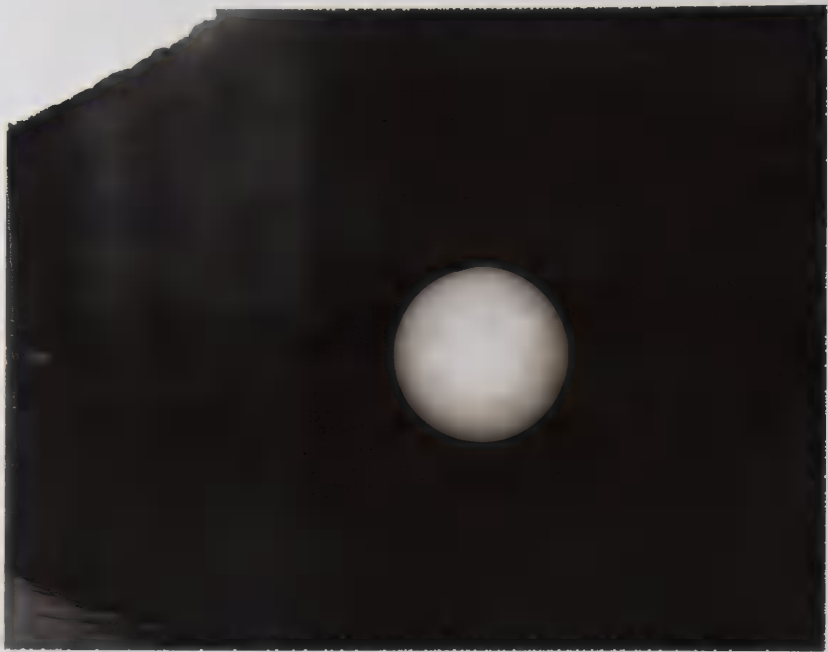
INSPECTION

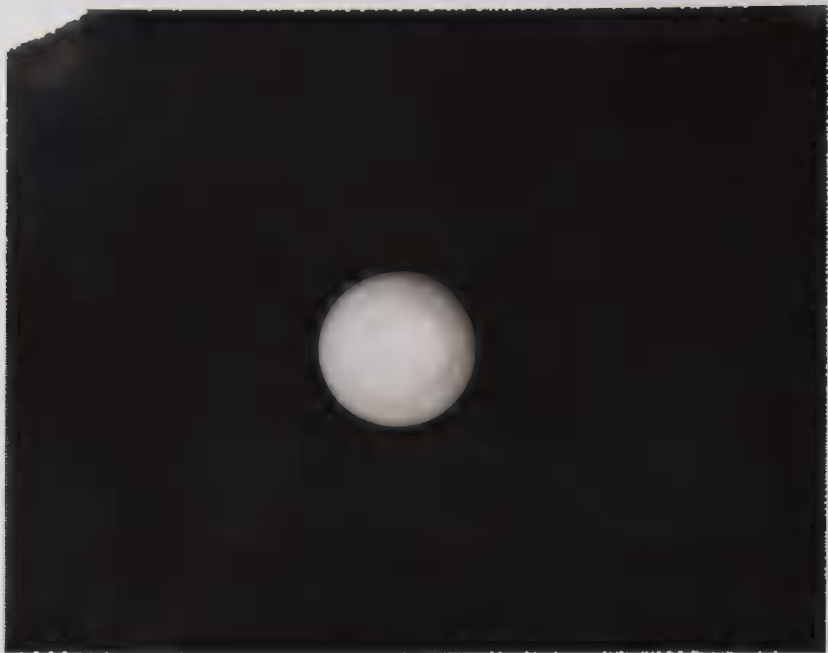




1745 half cent

1/19/76
test
on 1795 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent









Angle shot "Silver center cond"

1/19/76

test on 1792 silver
center cent.



Angle shot

Doug Robbins of
Portland Oregon

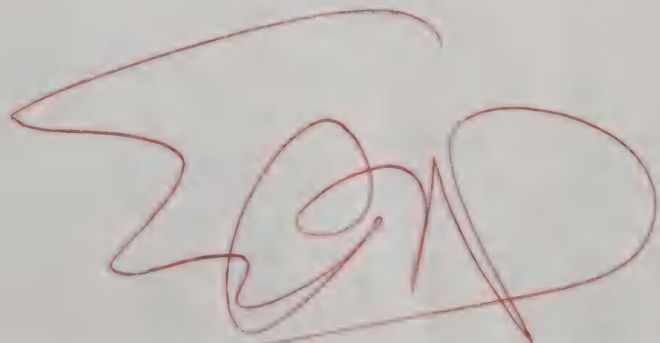
a dealer

gave the 1792 Silver Center Cent
(forgery) to ANA

July 4, 1976

and said he paid \$25,000

~~What~~ What he took as a deduction
as a gift is not known to
me.



Peter —

Do you have the weight
and specific gravity of the
1792 copper silver center
cent.

Weight: 4.5595 ± 0.0001 gram. (70.3 grains)
specific gravity = 8.69 ± 0.02

in

1792 SILVER CENTER CENTS

Nov 7 1862 Woodward #1548
Jan 1863 Benj Haines Collection #780 not illus "somewhat rubbed"

Apr 1863 Cogan #1075

1867 Mickleley #2135 "in remarkably fine condition"

1873 Seavey Catalog #842 Condition 4 (4 is good, 3 is fine)

1875 ^{Merles I.} Cohen #380 Obr plated v.f. Slightly corroded on rev-

1880 Woodward 31st #1383 very fine

1882 ^{Charles I} Bushnell #1766 Plate VI xf 73 grams
(Chapman)

1882 Woodward 45th #437

1884 ^{Charles K} Warner (Chapman) #3215 Obr only on Pl XI xf Sharper than
Bushnell piece. Sharp strong even impression

1884 Ely Woodward #444 v.f.

1885 Woodward 30th #2120 xf

1887 Woodward 93rd #816 ^{tooled}

1890 Parmelee #5 Obr only on Pl I. v.f sharp impression
unexcelled. Nummel says this is best

1890 Robt. C. Davis #1008a Obr only Pl. 3 v.f. believed to be the finest
surpasses one "Smith" offered.

1892 George Woodside

1895 Windsor 291 Chapm.

1906 Harlan P. Smith #1315 Plate II Wt. 73 xf from Bushnell
(Chapman)

Oct 1907 Elder #21250 v.g condition

6/15/1908 ^{Jun} Bachmend (Elder) #116 #402 Plate IV Unc with faint
traces of original red around obr letters. Finest known. magnificent.

1912 George ^{H.C.} Earle (Chapman) #2179 Pl XXV no weight no cond no provenance.

1914 ANS Exhibition Catalog. Wurtzback Plate 6, p. 12

1921 Jenks (Chapman) #5569 xf light olive from R.C. Davis
~~He never says this is the best~~

~~Based doubt on one account, to his list~~

Oct 18, 1933 Morgenthau #78

Jan 29 1936 Elder 2468 #104

12/13/1958 New Netherlands #104

1959 First & all subseq editions of Judd show illustration of
silver center cent with trench ~~then~~ around plug on rev.

9/18/1974 ^{Pine Tree} ~~New England~~ Rare #1272a

11/11/1974 Stack #14 xf pedigree data. (over)

Get date // N/A's letter time

10/8/75

1792 Silver Center Cent

AJW Jan 1873 p 71

Counterfeit Silver center cent
sold in Phila recently.

"At a late sale in Phila the silver center
cent proved to be a ctf.
It was dangerous one

10/11/74

Krenberg ~~Re~~ Schulman Auction
Brand Hechlerfeld Collections Sale Mar 18-21, 1964

lot 1106 Silver Center Cent 1792 v.f.
valued at \$6000

Says I will price it at \$7500.00
how sold at \$6750.00

~~Germany~~ + Send my some other state notes at paper
of sequence / other / western / ~~East~~ and midwestern first of it
then ~~the other~~ the other.
~~Back to the~~

~~any show for conservation of natural metal~~

cleaning and conservation
Richard Welter Die Reinigung und Erhaltung von Münzen und Medaillen
Braunschweig 1970 (4th Edition) 1st Edition 1963

Leontometh, parts of silver copper mix is 72 Ag - 28 Cu
779° Centigrade

~~Silver~~ Silver 100% 961° C

Copper 100% 1084° C

Casting of silver copper mix and plating

Thickness of copper exterior and wear is impossible
for a struck coin

ON
GEN

2 1/2 to 3 mm dia

~~Ground weight impossible for study sample~~

headman piece

Between D of UNITED and first S of STATES
is a T shaped ^{dent} ~~scratch~~ the base of which
is ~~a~~ 90 ^{degrees} ~~at~~ ^{from} the end of the nearest berry
stem. This ^{also} appears on the Harmer Roche piece (without
silver ^{plugs} ~~which~~ ^{which} is a copy ~~of~~ apparently made from
the Judd piece.

The reverse dentils on the Judd piece
are longest at ~~the top~~ 11 o'clock
and almost imperceptible at 6 o'clock.
This is true of the Harmer Roche piece.

The lower serif on the N in ONE does not
show on the Judd piece and appears ~~in~~ an
improper shape on the Harmer Roche piece.

An ^{and} indentation appears ^{centred} on the side of the
nose above the nostril. Whether this
is a planchet defect or subsequent injury
is unimportant as it does not appear on a
well struck piece, the Harmer Roche has the
same indentation.

The 5th Hair strand from bottom which projects at
the ^{struck} ~~is~~ very weak at the end ~~the~~ the Harmer Roche
has the same peculiarity.

herkness piece

base of the truncated bowl

There is a small notch at the ~~base~~ line
directly above the left side of the 7 below, this appears
on the Ham-Rock piece.

See: Lot # 116 of D. Schmidt Sale (6/15/08) by
Elder is a nice piece.

EDISON BROTHERS STORES INC.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES: 400 WASHINGTON AVE., ST. LOUIS 2, MO.

ERIC P. NEWMAN
SECRETARY AND
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT

Silver Center Center

Judd

75 1/2 gr.

67

$$\begin{array}{r} 8.9 \\ 8.5 \overline{) 75.5} \\ \underline{680} \\ 750 \end{array}$$

Submitted by
Julius Lindman
3/15/74

SPNS

80 gr.

71

$$\begin{array}{r} 8.9 \\ 9 \overline{) 80.0} \\ \underline{720} \\ 800 \end{array}$$

1792 Vought Cent in Copper

Apr 1974

wt 84 gr

73 in water

11 difference

Sp gr. 7.6

Sent in by Am Num Assn Auth
Certif Source

Doesn't ring

Obverse:

strong and clear. The 7 is very clear and
not like on small pieces.
Long scratch from right side of E
in RACEST to and above top of
2 and then curving over balance of
date

Depression

~~into~~ in neck

* ~~into~~ ~~into~~

* ~~into~~ near center of neck

* ~~into~~ ~~into~~ over jaw line

Faint trace of silver center outline visible in brain, particularly
left of ear. ~~Depression~~ are in the ~~encompassing~~ ~~area~~ of the ~~center~~
Surface ~~lightly~~ scratched throughout

Reverse

Extremely weak and with most parts
hardly readable

the silver center ~~appears~~ ~~to be~~ ~~fully~~
around and deeply sunk from 10 o'clock
to 5 o'clock clockwise. It is oval in
shape with axis ↙

Surface ~~lightly~~ scratched throughout

Edges The milled edge was put on after
the piece was made so its ~~function~~ ~~between~~
the edges are made from each surface
~~How it is made is not known~~

from 2 different
silver center pieces

A ~~scribble~~ forging

1792 Cent in mixed copper + silver

Arthur Fitts III

Numismatist p 1734

August 1976

Picture of very low grade
piece

Probably counterfeit

~~James M. ...~~ # 116 in Peter
K. Schan of Sale 6/17/08 by Elder
(9402.50)

~~Robert C. W. Crook,~~
Univ. of Pa., Boyd
See data in New Netherlands
Sale of 12/18/58.
Trans of manuscript and on obv lettering

Thus was the
memo with Epw
page originally.

This
copy +
was
removed.

Washed
Washed
Washed

Virgil Brand

#1 #5 #6 #7

Boyd #2

#7

Pine Tree Rare Coin Sale

Lot 1272a

9/18/74

from Sol Kaplan
Estate.

Jerry Cohen ~~piece~~ sent in Oct 1977 (1)
Silver^{color} (supposedly silver center cent in silver)

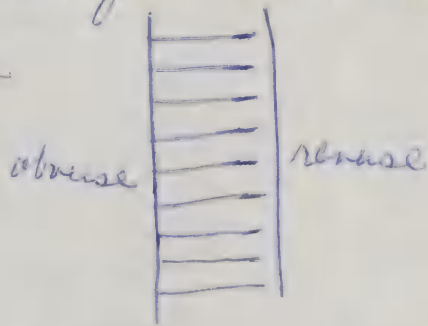
Wt.

Specific gravity 10.13 ± 0.03 Peter Gaspar measurement

Border beading on obverse does not show from 2³⁰ to 8³⁰ o'clock

Border beading on reverse is weak between 5 and 7 o'clock but all of it shows.

Edge milling reaches obverse face but does not quite reach reverse face



Obs. Observations

Lines of 2 in date abnormally wide and upper left end of 2 merges ^{with} rather than touches middle curve

7 in date very weak.



Diagonal gash sloping down to ^{right} from border touching right top of D in INDOIST

Triangular depression in center of neck very close to 5 o'clock of plug circle and with small circular depression within triangle.

Two ~~round~~ ^{in vertical line} round depressions close to ~~in~~ in front of chin.

Line and dot depression in field to right of point of chin.

Round depression in front of and near upper lip.

Irregular depression under top stroke of first C in SCIENCE.

Circular depression in field near upper left of 1 in date.

Diagonal depressed line in field near top of 7. ^{using to right}

Circular depression to left of center of left upright of N in PARENT

Group of two small depressions ~~in field~~ to right of eye.

Two circular depressions betw ER of LIBERTY and one above space between

Circular depression in field at left top of crossbar of T in LIBERTY

Long curving line depression in field to right of lower forehead.

Reverse Observations.

Small depression betw TE of UNITED

Two line depressions resembling sidewire T to left of first S in STATES. ~~one line the stem lying~~ ~~is 90° offset to line below~~ ~~Two nearest depressions~~

line crack resembling planchet or die break beginning at point of ~~dent~~ dental above left side of first T in STATES, passing left side of T and continuing to right lower point of A in STATES, then fading off toward top berry of wreath.

Three depressions in vertical line to right of T in CENT

Top right serif in C of CENT shows no plug line whatever

Plug line very pronounced from 1 to 6 o'clock and narrow from 10 to 1 and from 6 to 8³⁰.

~~Top right serif of CENT~~ E and left half of N in plug are very weak.

Dot depression to left of bottom of O in ONE

One ~~dot~~ Circular depressions above and one below second A of AMERICA

Diagonal line depression ^{going up to right} below R in AMERICA.

Dot depression on top of right upright of M.

Three ^{irregular} depressions below E of STATES.

Many other indentations

11/30/77 10⁴⁵

Lester Merkin

Elvin Unterman ^{atty + neighbor of Merkin} has a daughter on the west coast who met Shaffer ^{socially}. Shaffer learned that Unterman collected + Shaffer was sent to Lester Merkin. ^{Shaffman} was in the Movie producing business + wanted to buy land in Barbadoes. Coin was brought to Merkin by Shaffer and papers ^(mailing from Telluride Colo) were brought in by ~~Ferris~~ ^{Trevor} Philips. Shaffer called from California and asked for return of coin. Registered for \$15,000 + returned. ^{9/8/77}
~~Knows~~ Knows nothing more about Shaffer or the lawyer.

Mark Bernstein
brought coin to
Jerry Cohen
9/13/77

Rosen, Ross, Fields + Zak
9665 Wilshire Blvd
Beverly Hills, Cal. 90212
213-274-8981

Mark Bernstein ~~say~~ says it belongs ^{atty} Terry R. Fields as collateral on a loan to Shaffer who will be owner until 12/31/77 when collateral will be foreclosed. Shaffer received the coin in payment of a loan about three years ago, according to Bernstein. Bernstein will ask when it was acquired and if it was tampered with and who submitted it to the metallurgist.

Jerry Cohen
Abner Kreisberg 213-271 4281

B

Silver Center Cent

John Hunter 12/6/77

The ANACS opinion ~~said~~ on the coin I saw in Dec ¹⁹⁷⁵ Jan 1976 was ~~said~~ that it was not an original. The coin was submitted by a midwestern coin dealer who is an ANA member.

Trevor Philips submitted the coin to Leon Hendrickson about 9/19/75 and someone placed a \$10 000 value then.

Whether Trevor Philips submitted to the ANACS is not clear.

12/6/77 8th.

Terry Fields, lawyer,
telephoned from L. A. I asked
whether he knew how Shaffer
got the coin. He said Shaffer
had an ex wife from Colorado
who had a California boy friend
who had a partner who invested
in coins. They are now broken
up. The coin investor was not
named and he didn't know him.
I asked who was Trevor Philips
and said Philips brought things
to Merkin, who Field said mailed
the coin uninsured to Shoffman
care of Fields. I asked how
Shaffer got the coin and it wasn't
clearly answered as he said he wasn't
sure. I asked whether he knew of
ANACS opinion and he said he didn't. I
asked about the Pomona opinion & he knew
about it but had no copy. He told me
to keep the conversation confidential. I
told him the coin was a forgery. He said
others had not said so. I told him it
would be January before an opinion was
writing. I told him about the removal of
the plating. I said these matters of pedigree were
important in this case.

Existence of 1792 Billon Cent Verified by New Test



What numismatists long suspected but couldn't prove — the possible existence of a 1792 billon cent distinct from the small copper variety of the same year — has been confirmed by Don Taxay, president of Harmer, Rooke Numismatists, Ltd.

The coin has the appearance of pure copper, but, acting on a hunch, Taxay had it tested in the new Harmer, Rooke research laboratory. He discovered it was made of billon, a combination of silver and copper. Taxay reasoned that the silver content had probably been

ull page to tell him
n't know, and we'll
l column to expand
at particular theme

Dubin, of Connati-
e of the occasional
ho turns up with an
coin. He has two—
tel with a deep lam-
wn behind the neck
e 6 in the date, and
nose" 1908 nickel
reak along the nose
the old gal a rather
profile.

ison of South Caro-
managed to find four
4-SJ cents with the
that prompted the
mint nickname.

reported the second
that has come to
on, this one in Iowa,
ed that his "Dagwood
weighed 45% grains,
to the normal 34.6
ut 1/2 overweight! A
er core that appar-
t get rolled down to
ns before cladding
es for this one. Just
more, and it would
ed the weight of a

of Indiana, sent in
ture of a 1941 cent
1/2 of the reverse
away. The color
at the coin has some
streaks through it,
ow up especially well
gh surface where the
peeled off.

uby, of New Jersey,
bout a difference in
the nines on his
t. Without seeing the
estion, it is hard to
but a little search-
year where there are
numismatists in the



1792 cent designed and made by Henry Voight

Involved are the 1792 cents designed and made by Henry Voight, chief coiner and early die-sinker for the United States Mint. Both varieties, along with the famous Voight silver - center cent, were struck Dec. 17, 1792, at Philadelphia. In his book on patterns, Dr. J. Hewitt Judd identified a number of apparently copper specimens, but none of billon. He assumed that chemical determination could not be made without destroying a specimen.

However, the possibility of new research on this issue developed recently when the finer of two Voight copper cents was consigned to Harmer, Rooke for their million-dollar autumn auction.

leached from the coin's sur-
face over the years, making
the billon specimen appear
copper.

Taxay is urging the owners
of the three other Voight "cop-
per" cents to have similar tests
made so that a new pedigree
attribution can be made for the
issue.

The Voight billon cent will
be displayed in the Harmer,
Rooke Galleries at 604 Fifth
Ave., New York, until it goes
under the hammer in late fall.
Various authorities have esti-
mated its value at about \$20,
000.

SN

(From Page 5)

CC

(From Page 5)

Several impressions of the
pattern were taken in copper,

his level, inspired utmost
hone the rough edges of igno-
rance.

With walking stick he points
with the knowledge of years
and dedication he extolls—
trailing arbutus, gold-thre-